

Clarke in bid to defuse row over egg risk

Danger played down as Currie remains silent

A bitter political row broke out yesterday after statements by Mrs Edwina Currie over the safety of eggs...

By Philip Webster and John Young

The Government yesterday sought to head off widespread public scare over food poisoning and to safeguard farmers against big losses by reassuring shoppers that it is safe to carry on buying eggs.

Mr Clarke assured the Commons, however, that the risk to any healthy adults from eggs was "very small indeed."

But after Labour MPs and at least one Conservative had called for her resignation Mr Clarke publicly supported Mrs Currie and suggested that some MPs might be envious of "her natural gift for obtaining publicity."

Table with 2 columns: Topic, Count. Includes Silent epidemic, Parliament, Leading article, Political sketch.

WIN £36,000 Portfolio PLUS Accumulator. There were no winners yesterday's £4,000 daily prize, so today there is £36,000 to be won in the Portfolio Accumulator.

INSIDE North Sea pull-out International Thomson, one of the first companies to strike oil off the shores of Britain, is pulling out of the North Sea in a deal expected to bring in about £160 million.

Mutiny 'deal' The end of Argentina's military revolt brought claims of a deal between the Army and the mutineers behind President Alfonsín's back and fears that he is not in complete control of the forces.

Win a holiday in Barbados An offer that allows readers the chance to win two weeks in Barbados appears today. Tesco and Riss Foods have combined to give two couples a fortnight at the Tamarind Cove Hotel.

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A frenzied debut for steel



Frantic dealing on the London Traded Options Market after British Steel made its debut.

Little joy for small investors

Investors hoping for a quick profit on British Steel were denied their chance when dealings opened at a premium of just 3p a share yesterday.

Soviet arms-control coup feared

President Gorbachev of the Soviet Union arrives in New York today heralded by a Soviet public relations barrage that has raised fears in the White House that he may intend launching some spectacular peace initiative for which United States officials are unprepared.

Varsity match first for drink message

Thousands of rugby supporters attending the annual Oxford and Cambridge match at Twickenham today will be among the first targets of this year's Christmas campaign by ministers, police and brewers against drink-driving.

TESCO CHRISTMAS COLOUR SUPPLEMENT. 16 PAGES OF CHRISTMAS SPECIALS INSIDE. LUXURY CARIBBEAN HOLIDAYS AND CONCORDE FLIGHTS TO BE WON PLUS Free Ross Kitchen Diary Offer. Tesco. Changing the way Britain shops.

Employment prospects in the 1990s Training to be privatized

The Government yesterday announced that new employment-led training and enterprise councils will provide the framework for training in Britain at local level, in a White Paper - Employment for the 1990s - which shifts responsibility and the cost of training to the private sector.

Traffic nightmare returns to haunt London

London in the last two weeks. On November 24, after a students' demonstration at Westminster during the afternoon, four bridges across the Thames were closed and almost the whole of central London was brought close to a standstill, with traffic not returning to normal until midnight.





FIESTA	BONUS 950	POPULAR PLUS 1100	FESTIVAL 950	FIREFLY 1100	1.4S	1.6L DIESEL	GHIA 1.4	XR2
Cash price £* (including delivery)	4975.00	6145.00	6457.00	6944.00	7318.00	7347.00	8256.00	8614.00

**6.9% (13.4% APR)**

Initial payment (minimum 20%)	995.00	1229.00	1291.40	1388.80	1463.60	1469.40	1651.20	1722.80
36 monthly payments of	133.44	164.82	173.19	186.25	196.29	197.06	221.44	231.05
Charge for credit	823.84	1017.52	1069.24	1149.80	1212.04	1216.56	1367.04	1426.60
Total credit price	5798.84	7162.52	7526.24	8093.80	8530.04	8563.56	9623.04	10040.60

**3.9% (7.5% APR)**

Initial payment (minimum 50%)	2487.50	3072.50	3228.50	3472.00	3659.00	3673.50	4128.00	4307.00
24 monthly payments of	111.73	138.01	145.01	155.95	164.35	165.00	185.42	193.46
Charge for credit	194.02	239.74	251.74	270.80	285.40	286.50	322.08	336.04
Total credit price	5169.02	6384.74	6708.74	7214.80	7603.40	7633.50	8578.08	8950.04



Fiesta Festival II

# Fiesta Finance. The facts and the figures.

If you're thinking of buying a Fiesta, we have some news of interest.

From November 14th you can get surprisingly low rates on every model in the Fiesta range, petrol and diesel.

And today that range includes three special editions - the Fiesta Bonus, with its gleaming black or silver paint, which costs less than a Popular,\* the well equipped Fiesta Festival II and the luxurious Firefly.

Here are the details.

If you have the cash available, you can put down 50% deposit in which case you will

have up to 24 months to pay off the balance, and the interest rate will be 3.9% (APR 7.5%).

Alternatively, you can put down 20% deposit in which case you will have up to 36 months to pay off the balance, and the interest rate will be 6.9% (APR 13.4%). The choice is yours.

Either way, your deposit can be in the form of cash, or a trade-in, or a combination of both. So your present car could help you pay for your new one.

To decide which alternative might suit you best, study the examples above.

Or, better still, pay a visit to your Ford dealer,

see the Fiestas he has on offer, and let him explain the figures further. He can also give you details of a 48 month scheme which is available at a competitive rate of interest. We're sure you'll find it's all very straightforward.

These finance schemes are scheduled to last until March 15th 1989.

But to make sure you get the car you want, our advice is buy it soon.

Interest in Fiestas is always high especially when it's this low!

For more details of the Ford range, call free on 0800 010 112.



These Low Rate Finance Plans are subject to credit approval and apply to Fiesta cars registered between November 14th 1988 and March 15th 1989 and which are subject to Conditional Sale Agreements arranged by participating Ford dealers and underwritten by Ford Motor Credit Company Limited, Regent House, 1 Hubert Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4QL. Applicants must be over 18 years of age and credit worthy. Please note various factory fitted options and Ford's optional warranties (Extra Cover or Extra Cover Plus) are available at extra cost. \*Maximum retail price as at September 1988 including delivery but excluding number plates. Delivery is to Dealer premises with exception of Channel Islands and Isle of Wight when a further charge will be made. †Fiesta Popular £5188\*

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Misgrade  
£31.9

Action call to end  
GHS in IPS

# Farmers' president attacks Government over inflation level

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

The Government has failed abysmally in its primary duty to control inflation, Mr Simon Gourlay, president of the National Farmers' Union, said yesterday.

Britain had the third-highest inflation rate in the EEC and it was still rising, he said. It also had the second-highest interest rates, which were likely to rise still further.

High interest rates meant high values for sterling, which in turn heaped burdens on primary industries such as agriculture, he said at the Royal Smithfield Show in London.

"Every percentage point rise in base rates translates into at least six percentage points of the industry's already abysmally low net income", Mr Gourlay said.

"The combination of high inflation, high interest and an over-strong pound imposes a crippling burden."

In real terms, he said, farm incomes would reach their lowest level this year since the war.

The industry was moving deep into recession, and in the past three years had cut its full-time labour force by 17 per

cent, a loss of 20,000 rural jobs.

The Government's suggestion that farmers should look for other sources of income was tantamount to saying that those activities should subsidize farming. The basic business of farmers was to produce food, and that must be made profitable.

The NFU accepted that public expenditure on agriculture must be controlled, and that that would involve changes to the EEC's Common Agricultural Policy. But the present mechanisms were not an efficient method of controlling production, were incompatible with a prosperous farming industry, and were in conflict with public demands for a "greener" countryside.

Mr Gourlay said the NFU was talking to farmers' leaders in France and West Germany about extending compulsory restrictions on production, similar to the milk quota system.

Together, the three countries were responsible for two-thirds of the Community's output, and their farmers could not survive in a totally

unregulated market place. "I accept the need for market balance", Mr Gourlay said. "But I believe some extension of supply management is inevitable."

Ways must be found to reverse the downward trend in farm incomes caused by farm-gate prices lagging behind inflation in purchased goods and services.

The Ministry of Agriculture immediately rejected the idea of extending production quotas yesterday.

Baroness Trumpington, parliamentary secretary at the ministry, said quotas removed opportunities for expansion and kept prices unnecessarily high. "I cannot think of an approach less in line with the Government's open market policies."

"Farmers' incomes will be best assured not by sheltering them from market realities but by encouraging farmers to use their business skills. The Government recognizes the problems that higher interest rates can cause. But in our sophisticated economy they are the right response to inflationary pressures."

Show report, page 16

# Degree for an entrepreneur



Mr Alan Sugar, chairman of Amstrad, after receiving an honorary degree yesterday in Guildhall, London, from City University Business School. Mr Sugar, who received his degree from Professor Andrew Chambers, the dean, has been closely involved with the business school, including establishing the Amstrad Research Scholarship.

# Ormond Street hospital fund reaches £30m

By Emma Wilkins

An appeal has raised £30 million in just over a year for the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, central London. It is believed to be the most successful single appeal for a hospital in Britain.

Organizers of the Wishing Well Appeal Fund, launched 14 months ago to pay for the hospital's redevelopment, believe they will reach the final target of £42 million well ahead of schedule.

The announcement came yesterday at the unveiling of the Peter Pan mural, painted by Edmund Caswell, on one of the hospital's 72ft by 8ft walls.

The speed with which the appeal target was reached has surprised other children's hospitals. Some feel that the campaign detracted from their own.

However, Miss Marjorie Allford, director of the appeal committee, denied that the organizers have adopted aggressive marketing techniques or adversely affected other hospitals' campaigns.

"We have purposely set up regional committees in places with other children's hospitals because we are most concerned with our relationship with them and we have

done nothing to advertise in those areas", she said.

The redevelopment plan centres on a five-storey block to be built at the heart of the hospital, which will be linked to all the main buildings.

The back of the Victorian block and the old outpatients' building will be demolished.

The Government has increased its financial commitment to the building scheme from £20 million to £30 million to help to counter the rise in building costs caused by inflation. The Wishing Well fund increased its target from £30 million to £42 million last July.

The appeal has received strong support from its patrons, the Prince and Princess of Wales. Other members of the Royal Family have helped by donating their teddy bears to an exhibition to raise funds.

Michael Jackson, the singer, donated £120,000 after a concert tour last July. A Workshop grocer raised £1,000 by serving in a bath of baked beans and spaghetti for five hours. Sebastian Coe and Steve Cram, the athletes, raised £52,000 by running round the Great Church of St. Trinity College, Cambridge, while the clocked circuit.

# Dean rejects call on Mappa sale

By Craig Seton and Sheila Gunn

The Dean and Chapter of Hereford Cathedral yesterday unanimously rejected calls to withdraw the Mappa Mundi from auction and said the sale would go ahead unless and until £7 million or its equivalent was guaranteed towards the cathedral's finances.

Mr Richard Luce, Minister for the Arts, remained confident last night that the map would be kept in Britain and brushed aside criticism in the Commons over his refusal to step in.

The Very Rev Peter Haynes, the dean, denied that the decision to press on with the sale in spite of mounting public opposition was an attempt to "blackmail" British heritage bodies into helping the cathedral out of its financial crisis.

At a press conference after a three-hour meeting of the dean and chapter, he said that the auction of the medieval map of the world at Sotheby's next June was "by no means inevitable".

The meeting came after discussions last week when Lord Charteris, the chairman

of the National Heritage Memorial Fund, appealed to the dean to withdraw the map from sale while proposals were negotiated about possible financial help for the cathedral. But the dean said yesterday: "We continue to be highly responsive to some of the proposals and to explore all ways of saving the Mappa Mundi."

"But until the position is resolved we have no plans to revoke the proposed sale. I would like to be able to call off the sale tomorrow or even in half an hour's time. We are open to any offer which can be backed up by a realistic amount in writing."

It is believed that Mr Luce has not ruled out a personal intervention if all other attempts fail. He told MPs he hoped a solution could be found which would lead to the withdrawal of the map from auction.

"Preserving it in this country is important and all parties must work to that end. I have no shadow of doubt that it is important to preserve it in this country", he said.

# Masquerade Hare fetches £31,900

SALEROOM by Sarah Jane Checkland Art Market Correspondent

It took hard cash rather than ingenuity for an anonymous buyer to become the new owner of Kit Williams's "Masquerade Hare" at Sotheby's London yesterday.

The gold pendant which was buried by Mr Williams in August 1979, and subsequently became an obsession for thousands of treasure seekers scouring his book *Masquerade* for clues, fetched five times its estimate, at £31,900. Mr Williams admitted early defeat in the bidding.

Fashioned in 18 carat gold, the hare had been sent for sale on behalf of the man who found it in 1982, Dugald Thompson, from Kimbolton, Cambridgeshire. He launched Haresoft, a computer software company with a game hunting the jewelled hare. But the golden hare was sold yesterday on behalf of Peat Marwick, Haresoft's liquidators, to an anonymous buyer.

Stylish furniture from the estate of Henry Ford II, grandson of the founder of the Ford Motor Company who died earlier this year, was in great demand at his English

country home, Turville Grange, Henley.

A Bessarabian carpet decorated with ivory and pale indigo medallions quadrupled its estimate at £82,500, selling anonymously, while a Ziegler carpet decorated with leaves, palmets and flowerheads sold for £31,900 (estimate £6,000). "It is a typical house sale - everyone wants to go home with something", a spokesman said. The sale totalled £1 million.

The perfect, if bizarre *apres ski* drinks cabinet - its legs stylized skis - fetched top price at Sotheby's Monaco "Decorative Arts" sale on Sunday, selling for FF1.7 million (£152,797) or three times its estimate.

A 1964 Facel Vega two-door coupe bought as new by Ringo Starr in 1964, fetched £42,350 at Sotheby's London (estimate £30,000).

# Action call to end staff crisis in JPs' courts

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Government was urged last night to tackle the worsening crisis of staffing in the magistrates' courts service.

There are now more than 135 vacancies for court clerks nationally and, in October alone, a minimum of 130 courtroom sittings were cancelled throughout England and Wales.

Mr Neil McKinnick, chairman of the professional purposes committee of the Justices' Clerks' Society, said magistrates in Banbury, Oxfordshire: "The shortage of court clerks in magistrates' courts is growing worse by the month."

"Many experienced court clerks are leaving in pursuit careers with the Crown

Prosecution Service and in private practice.

"Much better salaries and improved career prospects are the prime motives."

He called on the Government to set up a full-scale review into the financing and structure of the magistrates' courts' service and to take urgent steps to alleviate the crisis.

"Fewer court clerks means fewer courts and that means delays to cases", he said. "In human terms it may mean that witnesses may forget vital evidence, victims of crime may not be compensated and the innocent have to wait much longer to have their names cleared. It is as serious as that."

# Think of us as your out-tray.

A recent survey revealed that the average company director can spend over a third of his working day not doing his job.

Instead, marketing directors are pestered to get towels replaced in the gents. Qualified engineers find themselves phoning round for a window cleaner. Accountants leave their ledgers to get the light bulbs changed.

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First, our specialists come along and look at your set-up, listen to your problems, and then suggest a support service to fit your needs.

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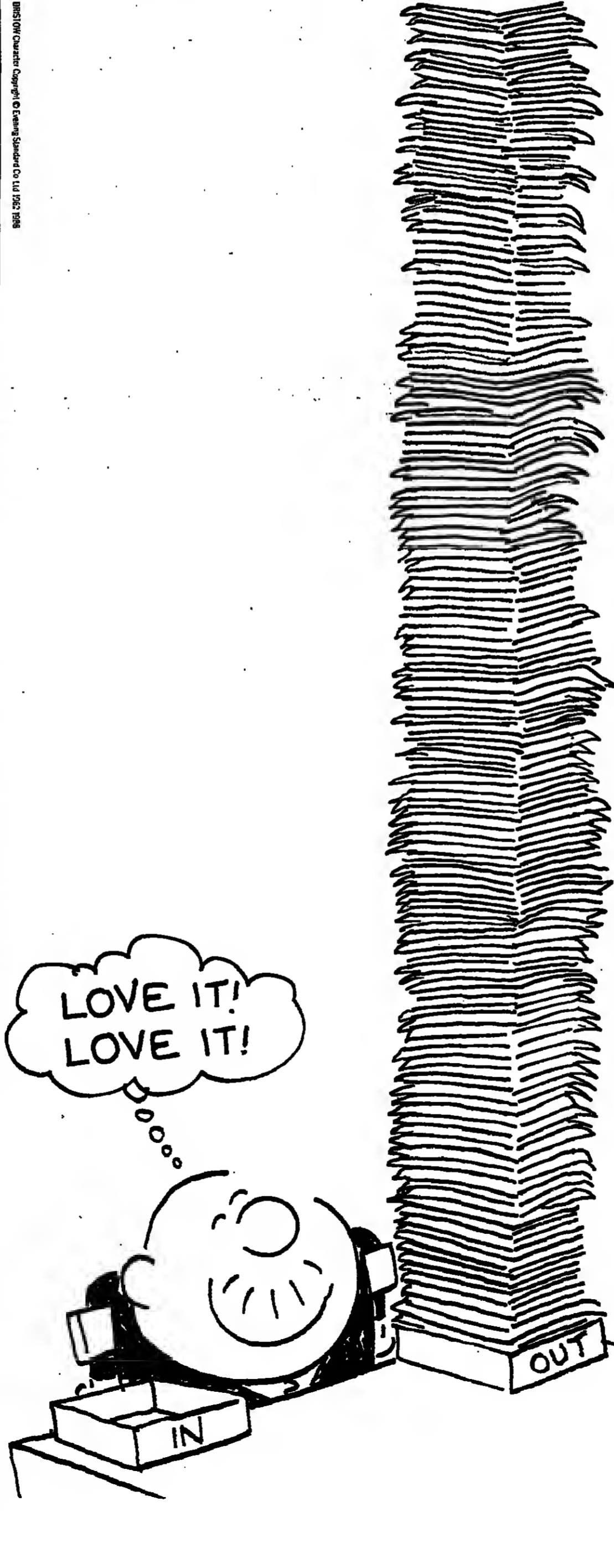
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# A HARDY PERFORMER WINS ITS LAURELS.



When 'What Car?' voted the Citroën AX 1988 'Best Budget car' and 'Best Small Hatchback' we weren't surprised. From performance to economy, comfort to interior space and a ride and drive unequalled in its class, it has to be your best choice.

Imaginative design and the latest technology are responsible for a lighter, yet immensely strong body and a class beating aerodynamic figure. And with its newly designed engine you have the most economical petrol car on the road, with equally competitive performance.

The ultimate example is the top of the range AXGT. A performance supermini that delivers a dazzling top speed of 112mph, where permitted of course, a zippy 0-60mph in 8.8 seconds, and road holding that means you can always take a tight bend with confidence.

Happily with maintenance taking less than 2 hours in the first 15,000 miles - we've made sure you spend more time on the road enjoying driving and less time off it.

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seats and steering wheel on the inside, and alloy wheels with low profile tyres, and skirts and spoilers that improve the aerodynamics on the outside, and you'll soon realise there isn't a better choice.

In all, the AX range offers ten models with 3 or 5 doors, and a choice of four engines and five trim levels. Prices begin at £4,854. So telephone, free of charge, on 0800 282671 for the name and address of your local Citroën dealer.

Then you can see for yourself how this hardy performer has won its laurels.

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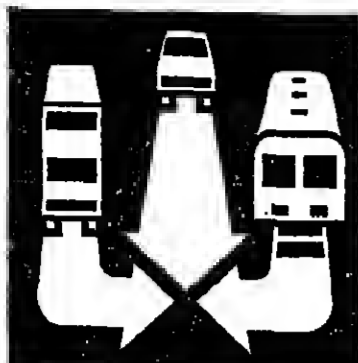






SPECTRUM

# Pouring money down the tube?



**GETTING LONDON MOVING**

Part 2: Public transport by the year 2001

**London's economic boom has placed an even greater strain on the Underground and Paul Valley discovers that unless we spend more, the future is even bleaker**

One of the more common advertisements on the platforms of the London Underground depicts a scene from the Tokyo subway. It shows a stocky little official squeezing passengers through the door of a tube train.

The delicacy of his white gloves, out of deference to the travellers' smart office clothes, makes an odd contrast with the bullish force exerted by his diagonal body. Whatever it is advertising, the poster seems to be a subliminal warning from the operators of London's creaking tube system — things could be worse.

Until recently, Underground travellers had become used to comparatively low levels of congestion. Between 1961 and 1981 more than 340,000 jobs had disappeared in central London because of decentralization and, later, recession. The population dropped by a million. Car ownership in the area also rose from 36.5 per cent to 57.4 per cent of households. Rail, tube and buses were all in decline and public transport chiefs were desperate for more business.

But since 1982, that has been reversed. The economic boom has brought extra jobs, mainly in the financial and professional sector. The population of central London is rising once more and the number of commuters arriving during the morning peak is up by 15 per cent.

The increased congestion on the roads and a more attractive Travelcard ticket system have, in the past five years, prompted a huge switch from road to rail and later to Underground, which has had a 70 per cent increase in passengers. Since 1984 there has even been a 10 per cent growth in the use of buses, a reversal of a long historic decline.

Official forecasts for the years to 2001 are that transport problems will worsen. Car ownership is

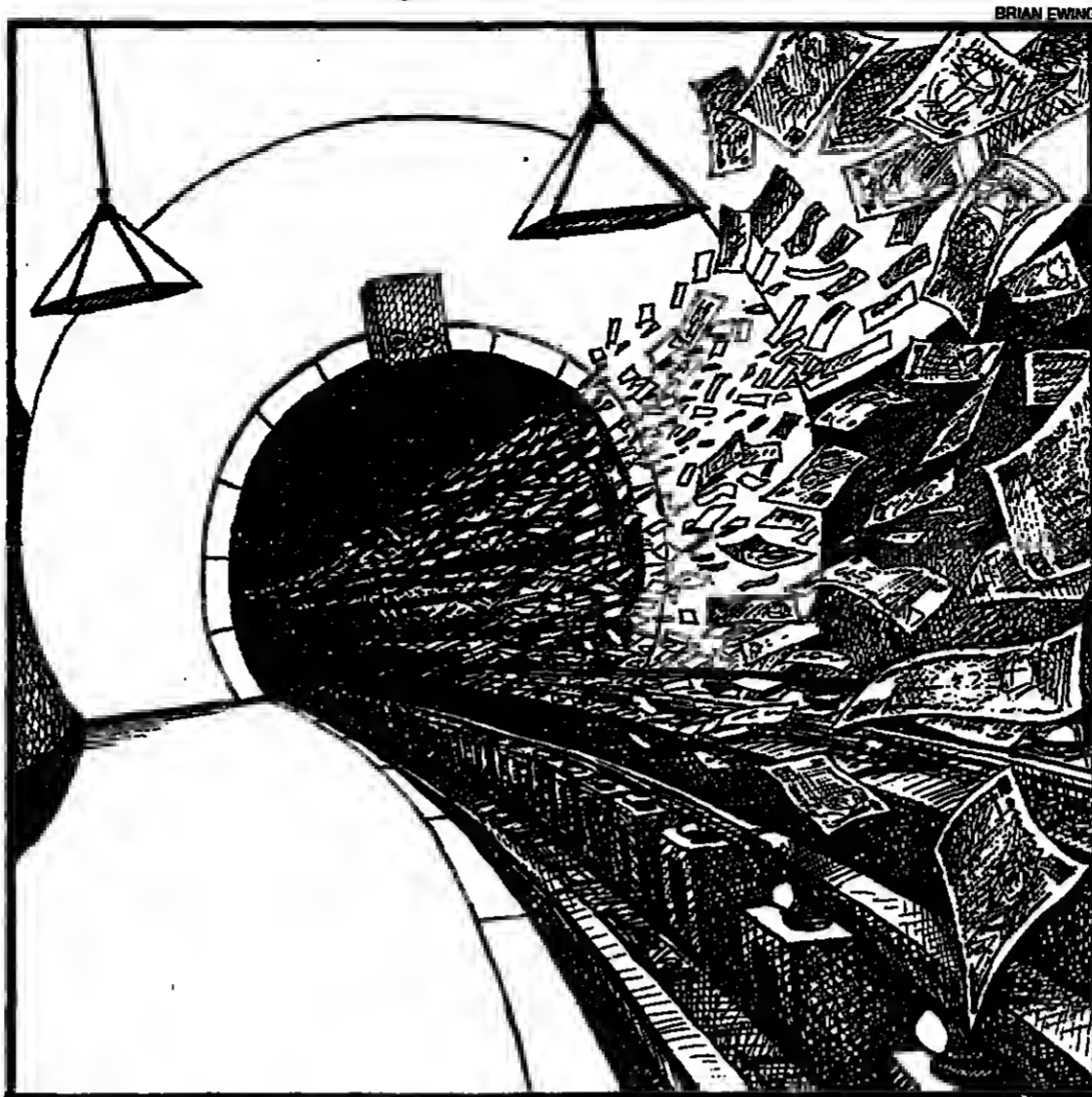
predicted to rise by 30 per cent and population will probably grow to a record level. Central London and Docklands expect 180,000 extra jobs. The increased demand on rail and tube will burst the present transport system unless there is huge investment.

The history of public transport in London has been one of persistent neglect and under-investment for almost four decades. Stuart Cole, principal lecturer in transport economics at the Business School of North London Polytechnic, says this is partly because the Department of Transport is dominated by road-builders and partly because of Treasury reluctance to spend the necessary sums when demand was declining.

"New lines require huge amounts of money — we probably need to spend about £5 billion now — and governments of all political shades have refused to invest on that scale because there are no votes in such long-term investment," he says.

London Underground seems to have suffered particularly badly from lack of investment in the 1970s, when passengers declined, and in the early 1980s, when it became a political football. Since it was removed from the reins of the Greater London Council, the government has allowed more investment, with some results.

But it is not serious money. Even in the 1960s and 1970s, it cost £3 billion to rejuvenate the Paris Metro and create a regional railway network. Maintaining public transport systems is expensive, especially where much of the equipment is more than 50 years old. David Bayliss, director of planning at London Regional Transport, says: "The annual cost of just keeping up, of replacing like for like, is £130 million a year. But that's not enough to keep up with the growth in congestion."



On such levels of investment, government policy is, in the words of Peter Hall, Professor of Geography at Reading University, tantamount to saying to residents and businesses: "It's a big city, if you don't like all the traffic, move."

In response to the growing concern, the government has commissioned the Central London Rail Study, which should have been published in July but is now expected early next year. Inside reports indicate that it will recommend between £2 billion and £3 billion on improvements to station facilities and three new lines across London — east to west, north to south, and the centre to Docklands.

Without this, the prediction is that by 2001 inner-city congestion will spread to suburbs as far apart as Wanstead, Highbury, Wembley, Ealing, Putney and Clapham, and more than 20 central London stations will have to operate a rationing system to prevent overloading.

Dr Martin Mogridge of the

Transport Studies Group at University College, London, in his own already-published report on the subject, recommends 18 different new lines or extensions to existing ones, to create a rapid express railway system like that in Paris. Complemented by a new lorry route to link up with the Channel Tunnel, it could cost about £10 billion over a 20-year period.

There is no sense of urgency in Conservative circles: no parliamentary time has apparently been found in the current session for a bill to permit the construction of a line from Waterloo to London Bridge to Docklands, even though a private developer, Olympia & York, has offered to raise £180 million towards the £460 million project.

A substantial input of private capital would obviously make such high investment more attractive to the government. Olympia & York is undertaking to arrange £100 million of equity and £80 million on commercial terms against operating revenue because, as its planning

director Michael Dennis acknowledged, the value would almost double the value of the firm's investment in Docklands' Canary Wharf area.

But most transport planners maintain — and the Secretary of State for Transport, Paul Channon, is said to accept — that the bulk of any investment will have to come from the public purse.

The traditional corollary would be to provide straightforward capital grants. There is still a significant lobby for such an approach, which argues that the government should provide rail and tube infrastructure, just as it provides roads, and then expect transport chiefs to operate commercially.

But there is another option: to charge for the use of roads and then use the revenue to pay for the improvements in public transport.

**TOMORROW**  
A charge for the roads

**LONG HAUL ON THE CENTRAL LINE**

From time to time the various strands that make up the tangle of the London Underground system come, quite literally, to the end of the line. After 30 years of relentlessly mounting use, the rolling stock and signalling systems reach the point where repair becomes more expensive, and less efficient, than wholesale replacement.

Unless something is done at that point, the afflicted line will just like a clogged overhead artery on the face of the metropolis, start to impair the efficiency of the rest of the system. The Central Line has reached that point; with its daily burden of half a million passengers, and an hourly flow of 27,000 humans along the stretch between Oxford Circus and Bank, chaos and despair are but a signal failure away.

Between now and 1995, a nocturnal army will set to work on the installation of a new signalling system along the 40-odd miles of track between West Ruislip at the western extremity and the open Essex countryside to the east. That apparently long span is explained by the short working hours available between the last and first trains, and the overriding need to keep the Central operating normally throughout.

Of the £720 million to be spent on the line over five years, the bulk will go on new rolling stock. The London Underground is taking tenders from four manufacturing companies — two British, one West German, and one from Japan.

When the whole operation is complete, the line — whose central section was built 125 years ago — will have 85 airy new trains with greatly increased top speeds and acceleration. This will mean, in theory, an average reduction of 12 per cent in journey times.

You only have to glance at the tube map — not the famous stylized plan which takes such liberties with the alignments — to see how this will benefit users of that interminable red tundra. The line may be the Central, but it is in reality a thoroughly eccentric amalgam of different tracks from different periods, joined in places by hairpins of linking track.

The man who has the job, as yet without a formal title, of co-ordinating the refurbishment plan, is Dr Roger Aylwood, aged 44. He has

been with the Underground for 10 years, before which he was a lecturer in mechanical engineering at Liverpool University. What is more, he would be stuck without the tube since he comes in from Amersham, that Metro-dependent town in the heart of Betjeman country.

"The increase in the use of the underground is alarming," he says in his Covent Garden office. "The official estimates say that it has gone up by 1.5 per cent in the past six months. The Central Line has exhausted the limits of its infrastructure and we have somehow to keep ahead of the situation."

"With the Underground as a whole, there are only a limited number of choices open to us. Either we can try and get by with endless repairs, but that is inconvenient, expensive, and in the end will not solve the basic problem. The second alternative is simply to build new railways, with all the massive expense which that entails. The third alternative is to reduce passenger numbers by pricing people out of the market. That, of course, is not only politically unacceptable, it is also quite wrong; our job is to enable people to get to work, not to keep them from it."

As far as the Central Line is concerned, whatever solutions Aylwood and his colleagues devise, they always seem to snub their collective toe on the impasse that is Liverpool Street, one of the most overcrowded intersections in the network. Even the notion of building an extra platform there has foundered because of the subterranean jungle of sewers, drains and construction piles which the area has become.

"In the end we have decided to go for the option of installing a new set of escalators at the other end of the platform, so that the crowds will disperse more quickly," he says. "We also hope that the design of the new trains will make it easier for passengers to move down into the centre of the carriage. It is the crowding at the mouth of the doors that makes the stops so long during rush-hour. The trains themselves can only play a limited part in getting people more quickly from A to B. If they don't then help themselves, there's not much more we can do."

Alan Franks

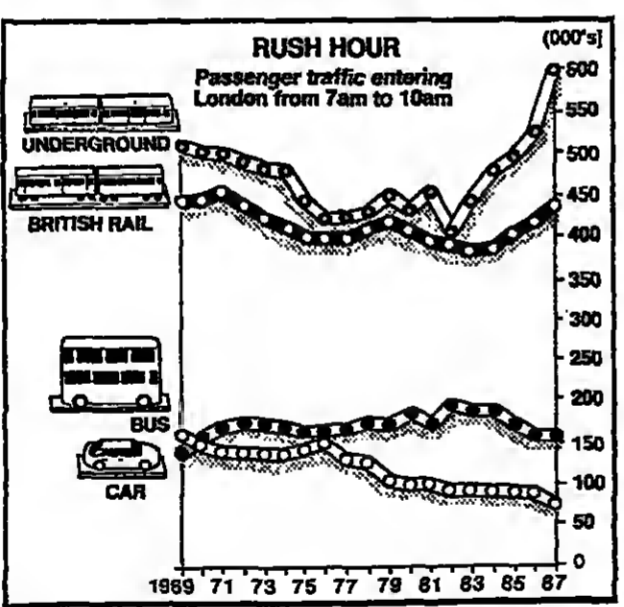
**PLAYING A CARD THAT CAME UP TRUMPS AND WAS THE TICKET TO RIDE**

The Travelcard was London Underground marketing men's answer to the steady decline in passengers. It offered unlimited travel within specified areas and the convenience of not having to queue for tickets. They thought they would sell about 100,000 a year.

Almost a million Travelcards were sold last year. The success has coincided with an increase in passengers, prompted by London's re-invigorated economic activity. All at once the Travelcard has become a double-edged strategy.

There is a correlation between fares on public transport and congestion. In 1981, when the Underground instituted its Fares Fair policy, ticket prices were cut by 31 per cent. As a result, there were 33,000 more tube journeys and the number of commuters entering London by car dropped by 12,000, proving that cost, not just journey-time, was a crucial factor in the choice of travel.

In 1982, after Bromley Council, which had no tube stations, successfully asked



the courts to rule the policy illegal, fares rose by 100 per cent overnight. The result: 59,000 fewer arrivals by tube and 37,000 more by car. In 1983, when the courts ruled that fares could be reduced, but by a smaller amount, ticket prices were reduced by 27 per cent; tube journeys went up by 38,000 and cars went down by 23,000.

The shift produced, by a smaller cut in fares, was more dramatic because of the Travelcard Effect.

London Transport chiefs were doubly pleased. The Travelcard generated new traffic, revenue increased, collecting costs were reduced and travel during the off-peak period grew.

David Bayliss, of London Regional Transport, says it also reduced fraud almost by half: "Removing single tickets removed the temptation to fiddle." The problem was, he adds, that "when it was introduced it was taking up slack, but now we're having to increase capacity to cope, and that hurts".

What must follow from that, say senior policy-makers at London Regional Transport, is a review of fares which substantially increases them during peak-hours, as a kind of congestion tax, while maintaining cheap off-peak fares to make the service run economically then as well.

Paul Valley

**A mix-up out of the blue**

Colour words are very old and very curious. One of the puzzles is how our blue seems to come from the Latin *flavus*, which meant pale yellow or golden to the Romans. The English and Latin lexicographers say that the words are cognate or "probably related". But they sound pretty shifty about it. Classical words for colours are notoriously few and indefinite. But blue is so different from yellow that I wonder whether the colour shift may not have been caused by a simple misprint.

One of the key sources is the *Liber Mineralium* of Albertus Magnus or St Albert, which he wrote about 1250. In it Big Albert described the supposed medical and magical properties of minerals, and gave personal observations on where they are found and in what form, and so on. And he seems to have been wearing yellow-tinted specs. For example, he describes sapphire, our sapphire, as a clear yellow (*perspicuus flavus*) like the sky on a fine day. Albert described as *flavus* other stones that look blue to us, such as lapis lazuli and Hyacinthus (whether corundum or zircon).

His book was immensely popular and influential among

fortune-tellers, interpreters of dreams, and other intellectuals of the pop press. It was plagiarized and translated over and over again, in the same way that you can see an error perpetuated down the centuries in a newspaper archive.

For example, here from *The Mirror of Stones*, first published in 1730, is a straight lift from Grand Albert five centuries before: "Zumemellazull, or Zemeck, but in Latin is the Stone Lazuli. This stone is yellow, of the Colour of the Sky when it is in its greatest Serenity, not transparent, and shines with golden Streaks; it sustains the Fire, and from its Beauty is called the celestial or stary Stone. Being prepared by Physicians, it cures melancholy disorders. There is also made of it a Colour called the Ultramarine Azure."

In classical Latin *flavus* is

**NEW WORDS FOR OLD**

Are you a natural *flavus*, darling?

used to describe honey, gold, sand, blondes such as Ganymede, and other things that are not obviously blue. How did yellow become blue? We could try saying that the Ancients were notoriously imprecise with their colour descriptions; for example, Virgil described swans as purple, and Homer described bulls as *olivos* or wine-dark, purplish, and not to my eyes a very bluish colour. To that explanation I say: "Pull the other one, it's got bulls on." You could say that *flavus* changed its meaning in the Middle Ages. You could say that Albert's Latin was not very good.

A better explanation is that it was a misprint, which can happen in the best-regulated publications. As far as there were nationalities in those days, Albert was essentially German. Instead of using the classical Latin for blue, *caeruleus*, he used a Latinization of the German word for blue, *blau* or *blaw*, and wrote *blavus*. Whether he invented it or picked it up does not matter. But the word *blavus* for blue was around. Johannes the Monk, who died in 1313, in his life of St Odo described certain vestments: "Of the colour which we, in the vulgar tongue (*vulgo*) call *blavus*." Salmasius (1588-1653), the commentator on many classical authors, places *Blavus* as an adjective of colour between *Purpureus* and *Caeruleus*.

It was a very Germanic word. I think an early scribe or printer, not understanding this unusual word *blavus*, peeped it to *flavus*. In early type the character for F with ligature and serifs looks not unlike a B. And that was how yellow turned blue. How often have I said to you that when you have eliminated the impossible, what remains, however improbable, must be human cock-up? And why do you suppose that we cry blue murder? Or should it be yellow murder? But that is another story.

Philip Howard

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WORLD ROUNDUP

Ex-chief minister to do penance

Amritsar (Reuters) - The former Punjab Chief Minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, accepted a humiliating series of punishments from the five head priests of the Sikh religion yesterday to end his excommunication, Sikh officials said.

The punishments - including seven days of kitchen work and cleaning shoes - were the price demanded by the priests to lift the excommunication they imposed on him last year. His acceptance of them clears the way for unity of the main Sikh political party, the Akali Dal.

Mr Barnala was Chief Minister of the violence-torn north Indian state from 1985 until May 1987, when the central Government in Delhi sacked him and imposed direct rule to tackle a violent Sikh separatist campaign. Mr Barnala was then excommunicated for defying an order to dissolve his faction of the Akali Dal and join others to present a united front to Delhi.

His punishments include five 48-hour non-stop recitals of the Sikh holy book, sweeping floors and washing utensils in temples and communal kitchens, and cleaning the shoes of visitors to the Golden Temple for seven days.

Washington - America yesterday issued a detailed reply to the report by the International Civil Aviation Organization on the shooting down by a US Navy ship in the Gulf in July of an Iranian civilian airliner (Christopher Thomas writes). All 290 people on board were killed. No details are available, but the US is unlikely to disagree with the organization's findings. The Pentagon itself concluded that US ships were insufficiently prepared to identify civilian aircraft.

55 killed in stampede

Yaounde (Reuters) - At least 55 panic-stricken children were trampled to death or suffocated and about 100 injured in a stampede at a school in the Cameroonian capital yesterday. Doctors said the final death toll could be higher because many seriously injured pupils were still being treated.

Yaounde radio quoted witnesses as saying the stampede, the cause of which was not clear, took place in a crowded five-storey building of the Institut Privé.

Kosovo bows to Serbs

Belgrade (Reuters) - The Communist Party in Yugoslavia's Kosovo province yesterday decided against the reinstatement of two ousted ethnic Albanian leaders who were blamed by Belgrade for being soft on separatists. The Party Committee turned down the reinstatement of the province's former party chief, Mrs Kacusa Jasari, and of a Politburo member, Mr Azem Vlasi. Their removal last month triggered a wave of ethnic Albanian protests.

Secret satellite launch

Cape Canaveral (AP) - The crew of the space shuttle Atlantis deployed a powerful radar satellite over the weekend, reported to have been the chief goal of the secret military space mission. According to informed sources, the Lacrosse satellite was designed to gather extremely sharp all-weather images of Soviet bloc military targets and would help US intelligence agencies to monitor Soviet compliance with arms control treaties.

Shamir tries again

Jerusalem (AP) - President Herzog yesterday granted Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Prime Minister and Likud leader, a three-week extension to form a coalition government and urged him to try again with the rival Labour Party. Mr Shamir's chances of forming a coalition without Labour have improved after spiritual advisers of the Agudat Israel party said it should renew talks with Likud.

South Africa jails youngest conscientious objector



Charles Bester, aged 18, South Africa's youngest campaigner against conscription, being accompanied into the Johannesburg magistrate's court yesterday by his parents, Mr Antony and Mrs Judy Bester, before he was sent to prison for the maximum six years for refusing compulsory service in the Army.

Bester said his Christian conscience dictated that he could not, on political and moral grounds, participate in the "evil" perpetuated by the South African Defence Force (Ray Kennedy writes).

His faith taught him to love God and to love his neighbour, and the apartheid system had caused untold suffering and humiliation, he said. Bester is the youngest person yet jailed in South Africa for refusing to do military service. All young white males - other races are not liable for conscription - must do two years' full-time service in the armed forces and are then liable, over 12 years, to be called up for 720 days of periodic "camps", totalling four years' service in all.

Rhodes summit was 'a pause for breath on way to 1992'

González inherits thorniest EEC issues

From Richard Owen and Mario Modiano, Rhodes

As the EEC leaders left the fortified Crusader castle of the Knights of St John here after the two-day summit meeting, President Mitterrand of France was heard to wish Señor Felipe González, the Spanish Prime Minister, "good luck" when he takes over the EEC presidency from Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Greek Prime Minister, on January 1.

"France takes over from Spain in the second half of the year," one diplomat said. "Both González and Mitterrand know that Papandreu has bequeathed to them some of the thorniest issues still to be solved before the Single European Market in 1992."

The Rhodes meeting, marking the winding-up of the Greek six-month presidency, was a pause for breath at the halfway stage to 1992. Neither Mr Papandreu, presiding as host, nor Mrs Thatcher was looking for a fight over Community issues.

As Mr Wilfried Martens, the Belgian Prime Minister, observed ruefully at the end of the meeting, Mrs Thatcher's energies had gone into airing her grievances with Belgium and Ireland over the Ryan

case, and she obviously did not want to fight on too many fronts at once.

As for Mr Papandreu, still recovering from open heart surgery, he was already defying doctor's orders by risking the strain of chairing a summit meeting. His fellow leaders treated him with compassion and took an indulgent view of his obvious infatuation with his mistress, Ms Dimitra Liani, who was his official companion.

In Mrs Thatcher's words, the Community "took stock" in Rhodes and identified some of the priorities ahead. EEC officials noted with evident satisfaction that by the end of this year half of the Internal Market programme would have been completed, "progress no-one would have dared to predict even a year ago".

Mr Jacques Delors, President of the Commission, told the summit that the EEC was benefiting from investment growth, something Mrs Thatcher attributes to the kind of economic policies pursued by Britain.

The summit communiqué said that the 1992 process itself had created a new dynamism in the European econ-

omy, with "smooth, steady and dynamic development".

On the other hand it was acknowledged that many of the toughest problems are yet to come, and that the pace of work must be stepped up. As Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany remarked: "We will have to work hard. It is clear to everybody that the discussions at the Madrid

Athens (Reuters) - The American-born wife of Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Greek Prime Minister, said yesterday she was ready to discuss divorce with him. "If Andreas is ready to talk to me about the divorce, I am glad. I asked him to do so long ago," Mrs Margaret Papandreu told journalists. The Socialist Prime Minister, aged 69, has made no secret of his relationship with Mrs Dimitra Liani, aged 34, who accompanied him to the European Community summit in Rhodes last weekend.

and Paris summits next year will not be as relaxed as this one."

Officials said that the reference in the communiqué to "appropriate harmonization or approximation where necessary" in the free movement of goods, services, capital and persons by 1992 could offer room for compromise - but equally arguments could arise over what was meant by "where necessary".

Despite the harmony in Rhodes, difficulties remain

between Britain and the other 11 nations.

Senior González said bluntly that he inclined toward the European idealism of M. Delors rather than to Mrs Thatcher's views, and he indicated that vexed questions such as the proposal for a European central bank would have to be addressed by the time of the Madrid summit.

adding that EEC countries must surrender a degree of sovereignty to the EEC to ensure fiscal harmonization and currency co-ordination.

He identified the coming policy priorities as social harmonization, the "social dimension" of 1992, monetary union, regional spending, cross-frontier television and increased powers for the European Parliament.

Rhodes saw a brief preliminary skirmish over proposals for the harmonization of tax-

ation, including VAT, with Mrs Thatcher strongly opposing the view put forward by M. Mitterrand that tax harmonization was a prerequisite for the full liberalization of capital movements across frontiers, planned for 1990.

"The market itself will deal with any changes that need to be made," the Prime Minister said, adding that tax harmonization was "neither necessary nor desirable."

Britain, The Netherlands, Germany and Denmark already had free capital flows with no need for tax harmonization.

On 1992 "social policy", which the Greeks had hoped to make a central platform of their presidency, the communiqué emphasized the need to combat unemployment and ensure safety in the workplace, as well as calling for a "systematic dialogue between management and labour at Community level".

But it failed to mention either EEC schemes for worker participation or plans for an EEC company statute, both fiercely opposed by Mrs Thatcher.

Officials insisted after Rhodes that not only M. Delors but also the EEC

southern countries, including Spain, would continue to press vigorously for EEC-wide action on workers' rights.

On cross-border television, the summit called for co-operation to develop Europe's "audio-visual capacity". It endorsed a French proposal for "a truly European audio-visual market", including the free exchange of programmes within the EEC, and the promotion of high definition television systems.

The meeting also called for the encouragement of television programmes which would demonstrate "the richness and diversity of European culture".

Perhaps the most explosive 1992 issue still to be tackled is how far power should be transferred from national parliaments to the European Parliament as an integrated Europe takes shape.

Diplomats observed that France remained determined to keep the European Parliament debating chamber in Strasbourg. They considered that this, coupled with the fear among national MPs that they were losing sovereignty to the EEC, could cause more contention in the course of 1989.

Table with 2 columns: Topic and Phone Number. Topics include Sexual Matters (Artificial Insemination, Female sexual response, Homosexuality, etc.), Pregnancy, Cancer, A.I.D.S., Contraception, and Sports Injuries.

Table with 2 columns: Topic and Phone Number. Topics include Methods of contraception, Morning after pill, Pregnancy, Having a baby, Smoking and pregnancy, Stretch marks, Cancer (Bowel, Breast, Oesophagus, Cervical, Kidney & Bladder), Leukaemia in children, Lung Cancer, Skin Cancer, Stomach Cancer, Uterus & Ovarian Cancer, and Drugs and Drug Abuse.

Table with 2 columns: Topic and Phone Number. Topics include Hamstring injuries, Head, neck and spine injuries, Hip and groin injuries, Knee injuries, Shoulder, elbow and hand injuries, GENERAL MEDICAL PROBLEMS (Arthritis & Rheumatism, Backache, Blood pressure high/low, Constipation, Cramp, Diarrhoea, Diverticular disease, Gall Stones).

Table with 2 columns: Topic and Phone Number. Topics include WOMEN (Breast - self examination, Cystitis, Hormone replacement therapy, Hysterectomy, Menopause, Menstruation, Pre-menstrual syndrome, Painful periods, Vaginal discharge, Vaginal thrush), TEENAGERS (Acne, Anorexia Nervosa, First kiss, First periods, Puberty - boys, Puberty - girls, The Pill and under 16 year old girls), HEART AND HEART ATTACKS (Angina, Heart Attacks in general, Palpitations), MENTAL HEALTH AND STRESS (Agoraphobia, Anxiety, Bulimia Nervosa, Depression, Loneliness, Manic Depression, Nervous breakdown, Schizophrenia, Stress, Tiredness), and CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES - THE HEALTHCALL DEBATE (Abortion - right or wrong?, Diets, Hormone replacement therapy - the debate, In-Vitro Fertilisation, Should boxing be allowed?, The pill, The right to die - Euthanasia, Whooping cough vaccination - the debate).

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Debt threat... Opposing... suspects... done with... Alfons... The upside...

# Debt threatens the fragile democracies of South America

**From Mac Margolis Rio de Janeiro**

When some 400 disgruntled military men seized the Campo de Mayo Infantry School and Villa Martelli arsenal in Argentina last week, all of South America again held its collective breath.

Governments from Santiago to Paramaribo are gingerly walking the narrow path between long, dark periods of dictatorship and the largely untried practice of full institutional democracy.

This third and most serious military uprising in 18 months appears to have been a costly victory for President Alfonsín, who was set to celebrate the fifth anniversary of Argentina's return to democracy this week.

By the time the rebel soldiers surrendered to regular army troops on Sunday, the four-day showdown looked more like the pathetic, if violent, death throes of a spent authority than a serious

blow against constitutional rule. The brief pursuit had its own iconography and theatre. While the rebels demanded amnesty for officers sentenced for rights abuses and the removal of the armed forces commander, General Dante Caridi, soldiers in berets and black-face glared fiercely from battle tanks while journalists' cameras clicked and whirred.

The drama's protagonist, the ultra-nationalist Colonel Mohammad Ali Seineldin, fittingly declared again and again that he was prepared to take the rebellion "to its ultimate consequences". That nearly came to pass when government troops twice fired upon the rebels.

There was damage on both sides. Señor Alfonsín's ability to command was shaken when military charges repeatedly balked at his orders to snuff the revolt, and the rebel movement won only revulsion from Argentine society. When the shooting stopped, the

revolt collapsed; a martyr to its own lonely zeal.

There have been other versions of such desperate soldiers' bravura across the continent. In 1982, a group of malcontents sent elite anti-narcotics troops to kidnap the fumbling Bolivian President Dr Hernan Siles Zuazo, who was released nine hours later.

Late last year, in southern Brazil, an Army captain, Luiz Fernando de Almeida, led 50 troops in an invasion of a city hall, where he read a manifesto against the low salaries in the Army.

In these instances, law and constitutional order proved more resilient than their enemies. President Siles Zuazo resigned a year before his term was through, but passed the presidential sash to a democratically elected successor.

In Brazil, a military court rewarded Captain De Almeida, not with a pay rise, but with three years in jail.

Even in Argentina, where the

"unreconstructed" military leaders speak loudest, the uprisings have ended where they began, in the confines of army barracks.

Last weekend, all political parties, including Señor Alfonsín's most ardent foes, roundly condemned the military revolt.

Though the continent's democracies are still fragile and fledgling, for now at least it is these splinter

groups of soldiers, not the civilians, who have been tarnished by their repeated challenges to democratic rule. September's plebiscite in Chile, in which voters rejected another eight-year presidential term for the continent's most prominent dictator, General Au-

gusto Pinochet, was a clear sign that those who rule with an iron hand may also stand on clay feet.

The last Argentine uprising was denounced across the continent and, indeed across the oceans. "History repeats itself as farce," wrote one Brazilian newspaper. But democracy may not yet be out of harm's way.

In fact, the spectre of the week's tumultuous events only helped to highlight President Alfonsín's urgent message to the United Nations last week. He told the world forum that the imminent threat to Latin democracies did not come from fanatics in uniform and war-paint, but something more insidious: foreign debt.

Latin and Caribbean nations hold \$420 billion (about £230 billion) in foreign debt, fully a third of what the poor world owes the rich. Since the debt crisis broke six years ago, virtually all the Latin societies have suffered plunging terms of trade, sluggish

economic growth, rising urban crime, lost opportunity and dashed hopes.

Between 1982 and 1987, this capital-starved region actually made a net transfer of its wealth (nearly 4 per cent of its entire gross domestic product) to creditors abroad. Per capita income has fallen to 1970s levels, while the population has continued to grow.

Many Latin leaders, economists, and bankers alike have already written off the 1980s as a "lost decade" for Latin America. The blame may be passed between profligate governments who spend more than they have, and unbending creditors, who insist on collecting more than debtor countries can afford.

But the resulting economic crisis has in turn provoked political disquiet, opening the way for extremists on the left and right. In Argentina, the rumblings have come from the barracks. In Peru, the threat comes from the mystic

radical guerrilla group, the Shining Path, which has planted bombs and sown terror from Cuzco to Lima. In Brazil, it is the quixotic populists and *caudillos*, or personalist rulers, who have made dramatic advances.

For South American politics has followed a simple, stark rule. Economic disorder has contributed to the undoing of all regimes, both to military and civilian clothes. It hastened generals into power in the 1960s and the 1970s, and it had ushered them out again by the beginning of this decade. Nearly always, military coups have also been civilian ones.

The beleaguered Latin leaders argue that without restored economic opportunity, and the debt relief that could make that possible, restiveness and perhaps even more uprisings will spread. The next challenge to a Latin democracy could end not in prosaic farce but in a much sadder sort of reprise.

## When the shooting stopped the revolt collapsed, a martyr to its own lonely zeal



A mystery man, posing as a press photographer, pulling out a gun and fleeing from angry journalists, outside the rebel base in Buenos Aires, after they discovered he was an impostor. He was later beaten up by the crowd and then arrested by police.

## Argentine President under growing pressure to explain how uprising ended

### Opposition suspects deal done without Alfonsín

**From Michael Llanos, Buenos Aires**

The Government of President Alfonsín was under fire yesterday from opposition politicians who wanted to know whether the Argentine Army and rebel officers had negotiated an amnesty to end a three-day mutiny on Sunday without the knowledge of the President.

The refusal yesterday, by Vice-President Victor Martínez to say where Colonel Mohammad Ali Seineldin, the rebel leader, was being held added to the impression that Señor Alfonsín was out completely in control of the Army.

A Defence Ministry spokesman refused to confirm whether Colonel Seineldin was even under arrest.

An army source said the colonel spent most of yesterday helping to supervise the dismantling of the rebel stronghold at the army munitions base at Villa Martelli, seven miles west of the capital.

The opposition, led by the Peronist movement, demanded to know Colonel Seineldin's whereabouts and whether he had negotiated a deal with the Army.

Military sources confirmed that the mutiny had ended after Colonel Seineldin met General Isidro Cáceres, one of the loyal officers ordered by Señor Alfonsín to crush the rebellion.

The deal struck was said to include obtaining from the Government a full amnesty for all officers implicated in the 1970s "dirty war" against terrorism, as well as increased defence spending—improving officers' pay and allocating

more funds to keep equipment operational.

Señor Alfonsín has denied the granting of "concessions". Other signs which fuelled opposition suspicions of a deal behind Señor Alfonsín's back included:

- The Army High Command, out of the Defence Ministry, was the first to announce that the rebel troops would lay down their arms.
- Loyal forces began withdrawing from the rebel stronghold at the Villa Martelli base a few hours before it was officially announced that the rebels would lay down their arms.
- The presidential spokesman, Señor José Lopez, could not say why the President did not use the word surrender, instead using the phrase "laying down their arms", to refer to the end of the mutiny.
- An Army general went on the record defending the rebels' demands. General Adolfo Etcheum, head of the Army Air Transport Brigade in Córdoba province, said the demands "are the same as mine and the vast majority of the Army".
- Though Señor Alfonsín on Saturday night ordered the Army to "crush" the rebellion, the loyal troops only encircled the rebels almost a day later. Loyal troops never began a full assault on the rebels' bases—either at Villa Martelli, at the Army Infantry School where the rebellion started, or at the infantry base in Mercedes, 60 miles west of the capital.
- Colonel Seineldin was out

stopped when he and a rebel coxswain fled on Saturday from the Army Infantry School to the Villa Martelli.

Leading military analysis says it is likely that the Army and the rebels reached a deal.

Señor Carlos Raimondi expected the Government and the opposition Peronists to approve an amnesty—albeit under a different name—but not until after the presidential elections on May 14, 1989.

"To do so now would only favour the far left," he said.

"There will be an amnesty because Argentina is a country of amnesties, we have some 30 such laws," Señor Raimondi declared. He added: "Then the Government can start resolving the problem by increasing military spending and salaries."

A human rights lawyer said the Government also had means to slow down the few human rights cases still pending which affect military officers. "The Supreme Court can suspend the trials as it has before," said Señor Horacio Meoñez Carreras.

Although Peronist leaders yesterday refused to accept an amnesty "imposed by the military" they did not rule out the possibility of such a law. Señor Carlos Menem, the Peronists' presidential candidate, acknowledged that an amnesty "is a fact that has to be reached through normal channels". Señor Menem, the leading candidate in the polls, had been calling for a "pacification law"—a euphemism for an amnesty—long before the mutiny.

Some conservative members of the ruling Radical Party yesterday suggested that such a solution to the military crisis was inevitable. Señor Balbino Zubiri, the National deputy head of the lower house defence committee, said that the country "needs legislation to avoid this".

The leader of Argentina's third largest party, the Conservative Democratic Centre Union, urged the country to accept an amnesty. Deputy Señor Alvaro Alsogaray, the

### Convincing win for Pérez in Venezuela poll

**From Tony Bianchi, Caracas**

Figures from Venezuela's Supreme Electoral Council yesterday confirmed that Señor Carlos Andrés Pérez, aged 66, a former President, won an unprecedented second term of office by a clear margin in Sunday's free presidential elections.

Results started to trickle in early yesterday, following the pattern projected by several television stations and giving Señor Pérez a comfortable 15 per cent lead over his nearest rival, Señor Eduardo Fernández of the Social Christian Party, Copei.

Señor Pérez, the candidate of the ruling Acción Democrática party, was quickly recognized as the victor by all the main opposing candidates.

In a short victory speech, he promised to work closely with other political parties and the private sector to solve Venezuela's economic problems, including a \$30 billion (about £16 billion) foreign debt.

He said that only servicing the debt according to the country's rate of export income would allow Venezuela to bridge the gap between the present economic slowdown and more prosperous times.

The President-elect has repeatedly promised to diversify from the basic and vital petroleum industry and attract foreign investment by stimulating the export of aluminium, steel, gold and semi-manufactured Venezuelan products.

Hundreds of thousands of people took to the streets in the capital late on Sunday night to celebrate Señor Pérez's victory.

Señor Pérez is the seventh consecutive democratically elected President since the overthrow of the dictator, General Marcos Pérez Jiménez, in January, 1958.

He won his second term in a very bitter seven-month electoral campaign during which he had to face internal and



Señor Pérez: Second term with a 15 per cent margin.

## The upside-down world of a superpower dinner

When President Reagan sits down for a farewell lunch with President Gorbachov tomorrow, historians will savour the extraordinary irony of events; never before have the leaders of the superpowers met under such changed circumstances.

The old President, accompanied by his successor, President-elect George Bush, will represent stability, continuity, orderly change; the much younger Mr Gorbachov—he did not even hold his present title the last time they met—comes from a country in turmoil, where a volcanic eruption of change appears to be blowing everything into the winds.

Constitutional power, economic systems, ethnic relations, concepts of freedom, democracy and human rights have all hurt their settled bounds with explosive force.

And while the United States at last presents the world with a consistency in foreign and domestic policy all too absent in previous changes of administration, almost everything in

the Soviet Union is now unpredictable and precarious.

Last Friday, the very day Mr Bush was receiving Governor Michael Dukakis, his defeated political rival, in an unusually swift display of reconciliation and national unity, President Gorbachov had on his hands a series of crises unimaginable in the Soviet Union since the death of Lenin—rioting and near civil war between Armenia and Azerbaijan, a unilateral declaration of virtual independence by Estonia, an aircraft hijacking and a constitutional upheaval involving the Supreme Soviet voting itself into oblivion.

The traditional attitudes of the two presidents have been turned upside down.

Mr Reagan, who took office in a firestorm of anti-Soviet rhetoric, leaves with the glow of his Moscow summit now colouring his views and the support of those who favour détente. And while much of his domestic revolution is dissipated by pragmatism and

the fiscal vice, his new relationship with the Soviet Union grows daily stronger.

On the other hand, Mr Gorbachov, who inherited a political situation blinded by propaganda and frozen in outdated slogans of class warfare, is now visiting Wall Street, citadel of capitalism, and banks in near universal popularity in the West.

Europeans vote him the most admired world leader; Washington View

**By Michael Binyon**

even in America, according to the latest poll, he comes ahead of Mr Brian Mulroney, Canada's Prime Minister, and behind Mrs Thatcher and the Pope as the foreign leader Americans most admire.

Moscow is deeply relieved that Mr Bush won the election. The Kremlin always finds it easier to do business with Western conservatives, who are a known factor, ideologically comprehensible

## Taif talks may lead to Moscow link with Saudi Arabia

Nicosia (Reuters) — Soviet officials flew to the Saudi capital yesterday at the end of talks with Afghan Muslim insurgents, with both sides keeping silent on the outcome.

The arrival of the officials in Riyadh raised speculation that Moscow and the Soviet Union could, after 50 years, be moving towards resumption of diplomatic ties.

Diplomats had earlier suggested that the fact that staunchly anti-communist Saudi Arabia was the host for the Afghan talks led to mountain resort of Taif said Saudi Arabia was already preparing to establish ties with China and has been steadily moving towards a more even-handed foreign policy after the

United States Congress repeatedly rejected its attempts to buy sophisticated American weapons.

The Soviet-Afghan talks were the first at high level between rebels and Soviet officials since Moscow intervened in Afghanistan in December, 1979. The two sides arrived on Friday, and yesterday the Saudi Press Agency said they had concluded their third and final round of negotiations on Sunday night.

Sources at the guest palace in Taif said the rebels had left on a pilgrimage to Mecca. The Soviet officials had gone to Riyadh, they said. The Soviet team was led by Mr Yuli Vorontsov, the Deputy Foreign Minister who is Moscow's Ambassador in Kabul, and the rebels by Mr

Burhanuddin Rabbani, leader of a seven-member insurgent alliance.

A senior Afghan government official said in Damascus that the Soviet delegation had been seeking the release of soldiers held prisoner, and the talks did not represent Soviet recognition of the Mujahidin.

● MOSCOW: Soviet troops used force on Sunday to clear crowds from the central square in the Azerbaijani capital, Baku, and protesters massed again in the city yesterday, an Azerbaijani official said.

Mr Elsin Bagirov, a spokesman for the Azerbaijani Foreign Ministry, said the troops acted after demonstrators ignored appeals to disperse (Reuters reports).

● The troops used force and cleared the square," he said. "Despite rumours to the contrary, I can state categorically no one was killed, but I am not sure about the numbers of injured."

● Demonstrators were reassembling in Baku yesterday, many carrying black flags in response to rumours of deaths in Sunday's incident.

● No stand-in: In the face of internal problems from the Baltics to the Caucasus, President Gorbachov is taking no chances with the running of the country while he is in New York (A Correspondent writes).

The visit marks the first time he has decided it is best not to leave day-to-day domestic affairs in the hands of any one man. Until now, the man who took control was the

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# Roh sacks 21 ministers to signal 'break with past'

From John Gittelsohn  
Seoul

In an attempt to distance himself from his disgraced predecessor, President Roh of South Korea yesterday announced a sweeping Cabinet shake-up, replacing the Prime Minister and 20 of 23 other ministers.

The Opposition immediately signalled its dissatisfaction, claiming that the President did not go far enough in rooting out elements of the nation's repressive past. The two leading opposition parties vowed to block the nomination of the new Prime Minister, who must win a majority in the Opposition-dominated National Assembly to assume office.

Mr Roh had a difficult time finding new faces to fill his Cabinet, analysts said, because most people with experience suffer the stigma of having served in previous repressive regimes.

One woman was named to head the minor Ministry for Political Affairs. Most of the new appointees come from Mr Roh's native Kyongsang province, the source of Korean leaders for the past 150 years.

A statement from the President called the Cabinet shake-up a decisive break with the Government of former President Chun Doo Hwan, who has lived in a mountain Buddhist temple since apologizing last month for corruption and repression during his seven-year Fifth Republic. Ten outgoing ministers of Mr Roh's 10-month administration were from Mr Chun's regime.

Mr Roh has also promised to reorganize the ruling Democratic Justice Party and to release political prisoners in a package of reforms aimed at putting the Chun scandals to rest. Mr Chun and Mr Roh are lifelong comrades and the President is promoting his reform package in a drive to head off popular demand for Mr Chun's prosecution.

The Prime Minister-designate, Mr Kang Young Hoon, aged 66, is a moderate with a long record of opposing military involvement in politics. He was dismissed as Commandant of the Korea Military Academy after criticizing the 1961 coup. A former general and diplomat, he



Mr Kang Young Hoon, a former diplomat, after being named Prime Minister yesterday. Served as Ambassador to Britain from 1981 to 1984.

"We are not opposing him as a person, but opposing the procedure of appointing him," said Mr Cho Soon Sung, an opposition assemblyman of the Party for Peace and Democracy. Under Korean law, the Prime Minister appoints all Cabinet members after the Parliament approves his nomination, a procedure which Mr Roh did not follow by naming the entire Cabinet yesterday.

Other controversial appointments in the new Cabinet include Mr Park Seh Jik, a former general who headed the Seoul Olympic organizing committee, who was named chief of the powerful National Security Planning Agency, formerly the Korean CIA. Mr Park, aged 55, is seen as a moderate among the clique of generals who seized power in Mr Chun's 1980 coup. Mr Lee Sang Hoon, a retired general, was named Minister of National Defence. Mr Lee graduated from the same Korea Military Academy class as Mr Chun and Mr Roh, but was not implicated in the coup. Mr Kim Yong Gap, a hardline former general active in the coup, was retained as Government Affairs Minister. Communist envoy: A former Hungarian Ambassador to Pyongyang arrived in Seoul yesterday to head the first communist mission to South Korea (Reuters reports).

Mr Sandor Etre, who is to set up a permanent mission here, studied international relations at Kim Il Sung University in North Korea in the 1950s and was Ambassador to Pyongyang from 1979 to 1984.

# Bangladesh disaster warning Disease and hunger may raise cyclone death toll

From Edward Gorman, Dhaka

Relief officials gave a warning last night that the death toll from last week's cyclone in Bangladesh could rise dramatically unless prompt action was taken to combat the spread of disease and hunger in the worst affected area, the south-west.

Mr Saidur Rahman, director of operations for Oxfam in Bangladesh, said that the situation in coastal areas along the Bay of Bengal had become critical. In some areas of the south between 60 per cent and 80 per cent of houses had been destroyed. Independent estimates put the number of homes destroyed at more than one million, with an estimated seven million people now homeless.

"Another area of severe damage is crops," Mr Rahman said. "In many places the rice paddies, the main staple in the south, have been totally destroyed." According to Ministry of Agriculture sources, the storm has destroyed almost two million acres of rice with a further 3.3 million acres estimated to be damaged.

Official government figures still put the death toll below 2,000. But observers here say that figure is based on the actual number of bodies recovered. They say thousands more, mostly deep-sea fishermen and farmers making a

precarious living on the partially submerged islands of the Ganges delta, may have been swept away.

One of the worst affected areas is likely to have been the world's largest mangrove swamp in the extreme south-western corner of the country known as Sunder Ban or Beautiful Forest. This remote region is visited, sometimes for up to a month at a time, by collectors of honey and round leaves for roofing or *got patta*. It will probably never be known how many people died there last Tuesday.

Clearly the difficulty of estimating the extent of the disaster is being exacerbated by the total absence of reliable data on population.

Mr Rahman, whose organization is already working at full stretch to counter the catastrophic impact of flooding in August and September which submerged almost 70 per cent of the country, says it is now essential that reconstruction and replanting begins immediately in the south.

It is clear, however, that the extent of the crisis could have been much worse. Improved warning systems in the southern Khulna district meant that many people with transistor radios, alerted by government broadcasts, had two days to move inland as the storm

approached. The tidal surge was also much lower than in cyclones in 1970 and 1985.

Mr Anisul Islam Mahmud, Minister for Flood Control in President Ershad's Government, said yesterday that he was confident Bangladesh could supply effective relief for victims of the cyclone and that a new effort by foreign donor nations would not be required.

He said that government food stocks, already feeding 20 million affected by the earlier flooding, were adequate. What was needed, he said, was at least emergency relief supplies, but long-term funding for reconstruction and for vital flood control schemes.

"Our major worry is how to bring about some structural changes so we can at least mitigate against the extent of floods," he said.

Mr Mahmud is a key member of the National Disaster Prevention Council set up by the President in September to look at ways of fighting the almost annual natural catastrophes afflicting this country.

The Minister said that proposals under discussion included the construction of bellpads, twin-storey scullins which could be used as evacuation points, and new flood warning and forecasting systems.

# Car bombs explode as Lebanon anger rises

Beirut — One person died and six were injured when two cars loaded with dynamite exploded near Syrian Army checkpoints in west Beirut and eastern Lebanon yesterday.

The attacks came as tension mounted in Muslim areas under Syrian Army control after the closure of the only crossing point between east Beirut and the Muslim west.

## Player defects

Tokyo (Reuters) — An East German viola player, Gerhard Goebel, aged 43, defected to West Germany while in Tokyo on tour.

## Blast deaths

Algiers (Reuters) — Eighteen people were killed and eight seriously injured in a gas explosion at a date processing plant, south-east of Algiers.

## Train chaos

Lagos (Reuters) — Train services were paralysed nationwide as a strike by Nigerian railway workers over unpaid wages entered its second week.

## Locust threat

Ankara (Reuters) — Locusts reached Turkey after destroying cereals and citrus crops in Mediterranean areas.

## Police swoop

Nairobi (Reuters) — Kenyan police arrested Mr Dave Owak, an associate of Mr Oginga Odinga, the former Vice-President.

## Chemical spill

Amsterdam (AP) — The city water authority halted the intake of water from the Rhine because of its pesticide content after a spill at a West German chemical plant.

## Nazi files trial

West Berlin — Four men charged in connection with the theft of 4,000 Nazi files from the Berlin Document Centre went on trial here.

## China millions

Peking (AFP) — The growing private business sector has created several millionaires only nine months after being recognized under the Constitution, the *China Daily* said.

# Tamil guerrillas take power

From Vijitha Yapa, Colombo

Eighteen months ago, Lieutenant-General Nalin Seneviratne was commander of the Sri Lankan Army, matching his wit against Tamil guerrillas, including members of the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front, who were fighting violently for a separate state called Eelam.

Yesterday at Trincomalee, as Governor of the combined Northern and Eastern provinces, he swore in 37 members of the Front, and 27 members of another guerrilla group, as members of the newly constituted provincial council.

The 17 members of the Sri Lankan Muslim Congress and the solitary member of President Jayewardene's United National Party who also won seats in provincial council elections last month did not attend the ceremony.

There was tight security by the 50,000-strong Indian peacekeeping force which is in the provinces to disarm the main guerrilla group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam. The Tigers had threatened to disrupt the polls but the voters of the Eastern Province dealt their prestige a blow by turning up in strength.

The new Chief Minister of the Northern and Eastern provinces is Mr Annamalai Varatharajah Perumal, aged 35, who will be sworn in

before President Jayewardene on Friday.

He said that separatism was never their slogan: "What we fought for was the right to self-determination for the Tamil people and the recognition of our people's integrity and dignity by the (majority) Sinhala leaders, and autonomy for our region."

He believes that with co-operation peace will return to the battle-scarred north and east. He has appointed a Sinhalese and a Muslim as Cabinet ministers, perhaps to show that he wants all communities to take part in the life of the Northern and Eastern provinces.

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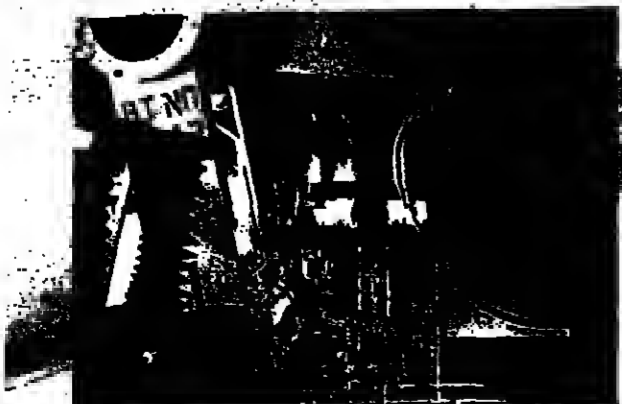
to an improvement in temperature control and components that are noticeably cleaner. In other words, it has meant a considerable reduction in maintenance costs and an increase in output.

All this is in addition to an annual saving of £170,000 in energy costs.

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CHRISTMAS GIFT GUIDE

ADOPTIONS

REPPER - Maria Teresa (nee New) and Anthony have adopted Isabel aged 7 months.

MARRIAGES

BISHOP-JONES - On December 2nd 1988... JAMES TOWLER - On December 2nd 1988...

DEATHS

ASHWITZ - On Saturday, December 2nd 1988... BARTON - On December 2nd 1988... BEECH - On December 1st 1988...

ON THE RECORD

ONCE THEY'VE BEEN EXAMINED, GRADED, LIGHTLY WHIPPED AND KEPT ON THE BOIL FOR A LONG TIME...

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A Great Challenge: PROFIT FROM HUMAN VALUES

COUNTDOWN

To Dec. 14th 1988 here in THE TIMES.

FARHAD HORMOZI

THE LINK WITH KIDNEY DISEASE

BRITISH HEART FOUNDATION

LEGAL NOTICES

HOLDERS OF HEATING SERVICES NOTICE BY HERBERT GAVIN PARRISON...

COMPANY NOTICES

NOTICE OF MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

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NOTICE OF MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

British Heart Foundation: The heart research charity. 102 Gloucester Place, London W1H 4DH.

Cancer Research Campaign: Fighting cancer on all fronts.

British Heart Foundation: The heart research charity. 102 Gloucester Place, London W1H 4DH.

DIABETES - The Link with Kidney Illness. NATIONAL KIDNEY RESEARCH FUND.

DIABETES - The Link with Kidney Illness. NATIONAL KIDNEY RESEARCH FUND. Once they've been examined, graded, lightly whipped and kept on the boil for a long time...



# FASHION by Liz Smith

## ALL THINGS TO ALL MEN

**Blazer moves into the City and proves that discretion is always the better part of success**

If the four men seen here were introduced at a party, they would not recognize that they all belong to the same sartorial "club". Membership is wide open. The club is Blazer, where men of all stripes elect to be dressed to their own, very different, rules.

So successful has this chain of discreet menswear shops been during 1988 — cherishing its solid, non-fashion ethos while expanding from six shops to 17 — it comes as a surprise to some customers that what they supposed was a private discovery has such a wide following.

Traditionalists can find reassuringly classic cords and tweed jackets hanging alongside Thirties-style raglan raincoats. Prospectors for the jeans and rough check shirts of the mythic West strike a well of rugged styles to relax in. Fashion-conscious City slickers emerge in well-cut pin-stripes with a dashing spotted silk waistcoat to wear with a dinner jacket.

Stephen Fry, Sir Roy Strogg, Charles Dance, Harrison Ford and Tom Cooti hardly share the same image, yet all are customers. Even the Duchess of York has been seen in a Blazer sweatshirt.

The appeal of Blazer is proof that, as in architecture, once the fundamental classical orders have been mastered, the scope of self-expression within the rules is limitless. Hackett, recently installed inside a glossy mahogany emporium in Covent Garden and in the throes of a nationwide expansion programme in partnership with Moss Bros, is the other spectacular example of success through supplying the basics of a gentlemanly wardrobe. If comparisons are to be made, Hackett prices seem up a notch from Blazer's and their style somewhat crustier. Next, however, seems to have been sidetracked into a more design-conscious idiom. A restaurant reviewer recently dissected accurately, if brutally, the "arriviste" clientele of one fashionable Soho eatery as "Next man".

David Krantz, of Blazer, is in no danger of becoming self-conscious about his image. His earliest gut feeling about a gap in the menswear market has proved right, and he is wisely sticking to it. Now 35, he has been in the business for 19 years. His first shop, Belt Up Jeans, had a short life at the start of the denim decade in 1971. His next shop, dedicated to traditional classics, opened in Golders Green in 1979. To set it apart from the crop of shops selling un-

structured, crumpled linen suits and leather blousons, Krantz went for a solidly British name, Blazer. He sold, and still sells, blazers, and is very much a grey-flannels-and-blazer dresser himself. But he discovered that the snag with the name was not that it limited the image of his stock-in-trade, but that it was simply difficult to register.

By the time he opened his second Blazer shop in Covent Garden in 1982 he had decided to start manufacturing for himself. De Havilland, a name picked at random while playing Trivial Pursuit, is the tag stitched inside Blazer's classic shirts. Today, 90 per cent of Blazer clothes carry their own labels, with only certain jeans bought from brand leaders, as well as the classic American Sebago loafer and British Cheaney punched brogues.

"Blazer's customer base is broad and within an age range from 18 to 50 or over. He is a guy like me," Krantz says. "He does not want anything loud. He expects value and clothes that last."

By 1987, Krantz had six Blazer shops in London and Guildford and was poised to be listed on the stockmarket. Then the City crash dictated a change in his plans and the chain became part of the Storehouse group.

Sales in any one Blazer at that time worked out at around £1,000 per sq ft, three times that of the average menswear retailer, and Sir Terence Conran (who buys his jumpers, belts and ties from this independent outpost of his empire) obviously has enough respect for Krantz's retailing abilities to allow him complete autonomy. With the backing of Storehouse, Blazer has grown to a chain of 17 shops — all in the South and Wales. Next year a further eight to 13 shops will open in the North and in Scotland, taking Blazer to full stretch until the planned move into European capitals.

The first Blazer shop in the City opens today, its stock mainly chalkstripe and Prince of Wales check suits that retail from £175 to £325. It is the structure inside a suit that matters, Krantz explains. That dictates the quality, and the price cannot be less.

The positioning of each branch determines the emphasis of what it sells. "I think with this range we have killed off the myth that Blazer stood only for a preppy look," Krantz says. "The customer dictates what he wants."

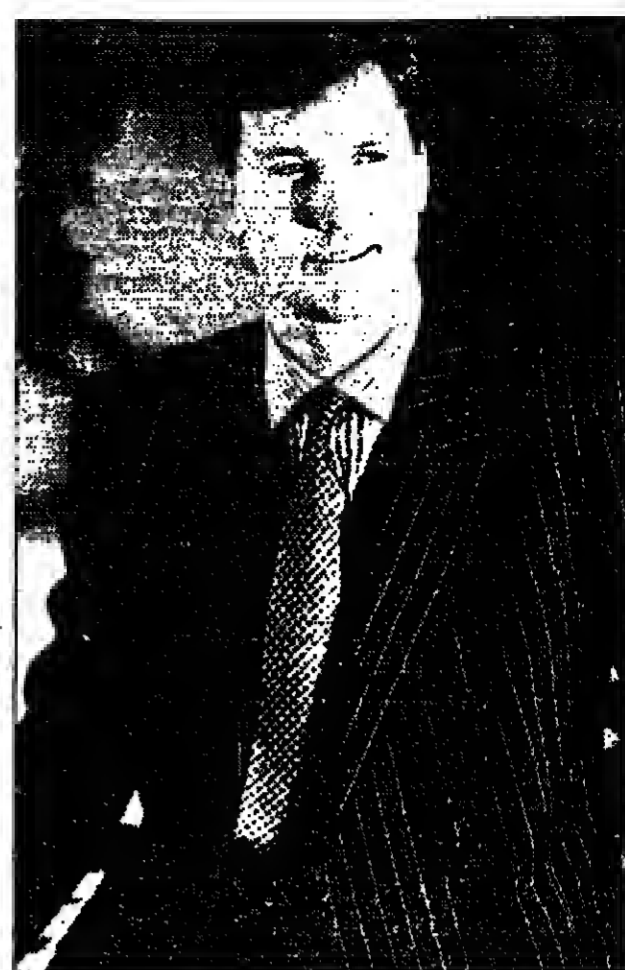


ABOVE: Graphic designer Ian Fletcher, with Harry the wolf-hound, wears classic duster raincoat, £89.95; suede bomber jacket, £189; shetland cardigan, £45.95; denim shirt, £29.95; mustard paisley silk cravat, £26.95; college scarf in green, red and yellow, £15.50; beige chinos (trousers), £32.50; all Blazer



LEFT: Advertising executive Peter Suchet wears a double-breasted suit in Prince of Wales checked wool, cuffed trousers, £195; shirt with button-down collar in pink Oxford cotton, £29.95; silk tie, £18.95; blue spotted silk handkerchief, £9.50; all Blazer

Photographs by CRENA WATSON  
Grooming by Leslee Corcoran for Atlas Associates,  
14 Northington Street, WC1



City investment manager John Rosier wears charcoal pinstripe wool double-breasted suit, £325, shirt with cutaway collar in blue, white and red striped cotton, £34.95, red diamond patterned silk tie, £17.95, all Blazer



Architect Giles Quarrie wears mustard herringbone-striped tweed jacket with leather elbow patches, £139.95; grey, maroon and gold Fair Isle jumper, £38.50; purple striped cotton shirt with button-down collar, £29.95; covert cloth cuffed trousers, £59.95; navy and white spotted silk cravat, £26.95; all Blazer

All clothes from Blazer, 36 Long Acre WC2; 117b Lincolns Inn Fields WC2 (Ebt Shop); 30 and 75 New Bond Street, W1; 170 Oxford Street, W1; 33a Kings Road, SW3; Derry Street, W8; 76 High Street, NW3; 29 Broadway, Ealing, W5; Shopping Centre, Milton Keynes; 66 High Street, Guildford; 10 The Square, Winchester; Above Bar Street, Southampton; 38-46 Broadmead, Bristol. Blazer opens today at Octagon Arcade, Broadgate EC2; next week at 15 Hill Street, Richmond and St David's Centre, Cardiff

### An era of Burberry

Veteran of the trenches in the First World War, survivor of numerous polar expeditions with Scott, Amundsen and Shackleton, and star of many a movie whodunit, it is small wonder that the Burberry coat has become a museum piece.

Next week, an exhibition of 30 or so historic Burberry garments opens at the V & A. From the earliest rural smock, manufactured by Thomas Burberry for his outfitters' shop founded in Basingstoke in 1856, up to the latest Thomas Burberry range launched this autumn, the exhibition is testament to the enduring style and lovingly detailed finish of Burberry clothes.

Burberry regularly prints notices offering a new coat in exchange for a vintage relic. Costume historian Margot Coats, who has assembled the exhibition, especially relishes a coat with an interesting pedigree, be it a First World War trenchcoat that "bristles with dignity", or writer Anthony Powell's short and very 1970s style. One of the oldest, a khaki drab shooting jacket, dates from the 1890s and survived a long career with its ornithologist-owner, Colonel Willoughby Verner.

A Burberry outfit for every sport was meant to be included. One has eluded them. So if anyone has in their attic a ladies' golfing suit with hitch-up skirt (where the ankle-length skirt can be buttoned back to become knee-length) do send it along to the V & A.



The Burberry Story is at the V & A from December 12 to August 31 next year.

### Sir Terence gets shirt

Sir Terence Conran's successful campaign to supply himself with suitably deep navy, sleek, long socks in his B&S chain developed into a crusade to prove excellence in other essentials, notably a top quality shirt.

The opening of his smart Storehouse shopping complex in Kensington High Street was celebrated with the arrival of B&S's Gentleman's Classic Shirt. With every detail of Conran's own Jeremy Street

berberdashery scrutinized and copied, this B&S classic comes out at £25, less than half the price of the original. It is in easy-to-iron Egyptian cotton, has double cuffs, a decent placket button-fastening and stiffeners for the collar that sits neatly on its neckband. In a choice of stripes, an Oxford weave or plain white, it presents challenging competition to the rival City Shirt sold by M&S for £27.50.

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INTER-CONTINENTAL HOTEL, HAMILTON PLACE, HYDE PARK CORNER, LONDON W1.

INFORMATION SERVICE

This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Review section on Saturday by a preview of the week ahead. Items should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN

BOOKING KEY
★ Seats available
★ Returns only
(D) Access for disabled

THEATRE LONDON

★ ARTIST DESCENDING A STAIRCASE: Deft, often touching, stage version of Stoppard's radio play, transferred from the King's Head Theatre to the Lyric Theatre, 30 St Martin's Lane, WC2 (01-636 5122). Tube: Leicester Sq. Preview tonight 8-9.30, opens tomorrow 7-8.30pm, then Mon-Fri 8-9.30pm, Sat 8-10pm, Sun 8-10.30pm, mat 1.50, Fri and Sat 6-7.30pm, 25-£13.50.

★ THE CONQUEST OF THE SOUTH POLE: A re-creation by the unemployed youths in a Rufford indie. Acclaimed play by Manfred Karge, original by Man to Man Theatre, Sloane Square, SW1 (01-730 1745). Tube: Sloane Square. Mon-Sat 8pm, mat Sat 4pm, Mon-Sat 7.45-10.15pm, mat Wed 2.30-5pm and Sat 4-6.30pm, 25-£19.

★ AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE: Transfer from Young Vic of Arthur Miller's engrossing adaptation; with Tom Wilkinson, Suzann Sylvester, Plymouth, Northumbria and AW1 (01-632 4671). Tube: Euston. Mon-Fri 7.30-10.30pm, Sat 8-11pm, mat Wed 2-5pm and Sat 4-7pm. Before Christmas all evening seats 25-£10 and mat 25-£15. After Christmas 25-£15.50 and mat 25-£10.

OUT OF TOWN

BRIGHTON: ★ Time and the Conways: Carmen Silvera, Richard Warwick, Polly James in touring production of Priestley's fine classic. Theatre Royal, New Road (0273 28488). Mon-Thur 7.45pm, Fri and Sat 8.15pm, mat Thur 2.30pm and Sat 5pm, 24-25.

COVENTRY: ★ Our Ellen: Tina Gray as the irresistible Ellen Terry a trip through her life on and off the stage. Belgrave Theatre, Belgrave Square (0203 553055). Mon-Sat 7.45-10pm, 22.75.

FILMS

★ Also on national release
★ Advance booking possible
★ AU REVOIR, LES ENFANTS (PG): Louis Malle's moving drama, set in a provincial boarding school (107 min). Carzoo Mayfair (01-499 3737). Progs 1.30, 3.45, 6.20, 8.50.

TOP 10 UK SINGLES

- 1 (7) Mistereo & Wine... Cliff Richard, EM
2 (-) Especially For You... Kylie Minogue/Jason Donovan, PWL
3 (10) Suddenly... Angry Anderson, Food for Thought

TOP 10 UK ALBUMS

- 1 (1) Now That's What I Call Music 13... Various, EM/Virgin
2 (2) Kylie - The Album... Kylie Minogue, PWL
3 (3) Private Collection... Cliff Richard, EM



Pests out of control

Mike Leigh's first play for eight years, Smelling a Rat, previews tonight at Hampstead Theatre. It is an improvised work. Like three previous plays premiered at Hampstead, Abigail's Party, Ecstasy and Goose-Pimples, which won the Comedy of the Year award in 1981. His most recent film, High Hopes, also won an award at this year's Venice Film Festival, and is due to be released in January. Like any improvised play, however early in the rehearsal period a script seems to have reached its final form, there is always the possibility of profound change ahead: but on the eve of the first preview the play is described as a comedy, set in the bedroom of Mr Weasel (Eric Allan), owner of a flourishing firm of pest controllers. Involved in the antics, which take place over Christmas, are the son of the house and his girlfriend (Greg Cruttwell, Saskia Reeves, above), and an employee (Timothy Spall, best known as Barry in Auf Wiedersehen Pet) and his girlfriend (Brid Brennan). All the characters bear the names of pests, suggesting a story in which Mr Weasel does not have the same success controlling troubles within his house as he has with those outside it. Smelling a Rat, Hampstead Theatre, Swiss Cottage Centre, NW3 (01-722 9381). Preview from tonight at 8 o'clock. Opens Friday, 7pm; £5-£7.50.

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1738

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Clues include: 1 Revolution (12), 2 Illicit trade (7), 3 Rub (5), 4 Greyhound stall (4), 5 Scound lowest male voice (8), 6 Inflexible (3), 7 Galway/Shannon county (5), 8 American petrol (3), 9 In money back in (8), 10 Aspiration (4), 11 Allow to enter (3,2), 12 Model's stage (7), 13 Complete discretion (5,7), 14 Unyielding (7), 15 Sleaze end (4), 16 Dreamily fly (13), 17 Accessor's father (8), 18 Mature insect (5), 19 Sibling's daughter (5), 20 Rank (6), 21 Runnagethrough (8), 22 Giant Phallusifer (7), 23 Butcherbird (6), 24 Bury (5), 25 Kestrel (3), 26 White wins with 1B3.

WORD-WATCHING

BRICOLEUR (n) Somebody who constructs things by using up bits of old or unwanted material without following an explicit plan; Claude Lévi-Strauss, the French structural anthropologist, coined the term as a model for the way all humans build objects and theories by pottering around with natural objects in various combinations.

BILANDER (n) A two-wheeled boy, having his handlebars bent to the wheel length of his legs, leaning forward and aft, and inclined to the horizontal at an angle of about 45 degrees, also bylander, from the Dutch bylander a lighter sailing by the coast.

URTICANTION (n) Whipping (as a beehived limb) with green nettles so as to restore sensation, stinging like a nettle, from the Latin urtica.

BLIND FREDDIE (n) Vivid Australian slang for an imaginary wallie representing the highest degree of competence conceivable, especially in the phrase "Blind Freddie could see that".

WINNING MOVE

The above position is taken from the game between Medina (White) and Tal (Black) played in Palma 1967. Black plays and wins. The winning move will be given in tomorrow's Times. Solution to yesterday's position: White wins with 1B3.

WALKS

THE LONDON OF JACK THE RIPPER: most Whitechapel Tube, 7.30pm, £3 (01-882 3414). GHOSTS, GHOULS AND HAUNTED TAVERNS: meet St Paul's Tube, 7pm, £3 (01-837 4281).

ROCK

★ SANDIE SHAW: An unlikely subject of fashionable interest in the Eighties, Miss Fiddler, 24-28 Harlesden High Street, London NW10 (01-981 5480) 8pm, 25. ★ A-HA: The Norwegian pin-ups seem to be staying the course better than many of their pop phenomenon graduates. Wembley Arena, Empire Way, Middlesex (01-902 1234) 8pm, £9.50-£12.50, for two nights.

OPERA

★ THE MAGIC FLUTE: Jonathan Miller's delightful bookish production for Scottish opera returns to home ground for a final pre-Christmas showing. Theatre Royal, Glasgow (041-331 1284), 7.15-10.30pm, £5 to £23.

DANCE

★ APOLLO: Silvia Guillen, guest star from Paris, dances with the Royal Ballet in this Grand Pas Classique. A Month in The Country and Blinky's new Spirit of Figue complete the bill. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 1065), 7.30-10.30pm, £1-£32.

OTHER EVENTS

UN ANNIVERSARY: A musical celebration of the 40th anniversary of the UN Declaration of Human Rights with works by Beethoven, Haydn and Brahms. St James's Church, Piccadilly, London W1. Tickets £5 from UNA, 3 Whitehall Court, London SW1 at the door.

BOOKINGS

FIRST CHANCE KIM BREWER: London debut by young pianist from Devon, now living in the United States, who won the 1987 National Junior Piano Competition at the age of 13. Works by Mozart, Beethoven, Liszt, Chopin. Purcell Room, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 8600), Jan 14.

SHOSTAKOVICH STRING QUARTETS: Brodsky playing complete cycle of 15 string quartets by composer best known for his great symphonic works. Jan-Feb. Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 8600).

LAST CHANCE

EISENSTEIN, 1898-1968: First major retrospective of work and life of Russian film maker, known for such epics as Battleship Potemkin, Ends Sun. Hayward Gallery, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3144; 01-261 0127 recorded information).

ALICE'S ADVENTURES IN WONDERLAND: Magical art work for new edition of Lewis Carroll's classic by the artist John Tenniel. Ends Sun. Barbican, Silk Street, London EC2 (01-638 4141).

Theatre: Jeremy Kingston; Films: Geoff Brown; Concerts: Max Harrison; Opera: Hilary Finch; Books: David Sinclair; Jazz: Steve Davis; Dance: John Percival; Galleries: David Lee; Walks and Talks: Judy Carshaw; Other Events: Greta Froehling; Bookings: Anac Whitehouse.

Entertainment listings for various theatres including Apollo Theatre, National Theatre, and others. Includes show titles like 'The Wizard of Oz' and 'A Walk in the Woods'.

Entertainment listings for various theatres including Lyric Theatre, Theatre Royal, and others. Includes show titles like 'The Wizard of Oz' and 'A Walk in the Woods'.

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BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Willaire pays £4.3m for two companies

Willaire Group, the electronics, environmental and industrial services company, is paying at least £4.3 million for Medical Air Technology, which specializes in medical and pharmaceutical applications, and Climperhurst, which maintains air conditioning units. A further £1.25 million may be payable depending on future profits.

Acal ahead at half time

Acal, the electronic components and industrial controls distributor, increased pre-tax profits from £1.17 million to £1.70 million for the six months to September 30, mainly due to strong order growth, particularly in continental Europe.

89% rise for Beaverco

Shares in Beaverco, the Unlisted Securities Market-quoted manufacturer of fire-retardant safety foam, rose 89 per cent to £250.000 after the announcement of pre-tax profits up 89 per cent, from £1.9 million in the six months to September 31.

Interim £3m at Leigh

Leigh Interests, the Walsall waste disposal firm, increased pre-tax profits from £1.79 million to £3.03 million for the six months to September 30. However, the company admitted some of its plants had suffered difficulties during the period following criticism over the impact of about 2,000 tons of toxic waste from the controversial Karea B ship this year.

Clayhithe up to £1.83m

Clayhithe, the property and investment company which merged with the Betec engineering group last year, raised pre-tax profits for the six months to end-September from £914,000 to £1.83 million. Turnover was up from £11.30 million to £13.01 million, with earnings per share rising from 3.77p to 7.76p.

Allied Irish raises offer

Allied Irish Banks has raised its offer for the outstanding shares of First Maryland Bancorp from \$340 million (£181.91 million) to \$371 million. The new offer is recommended by the FMB board. AIB owned 49.7 per cent of FMB when it made its offer in September.

Whitbread expands

Homark Associates, a leading maker of beer engines and other drink-dispensing equipment, has been bought by Whitbread, the brewer, for an undisclosed sum. Homark, a private company which employs 100 people and has factories in Poole and Wareham, Dorset, and Rotherham, South Yorkshire, will be integrated with Whitbread's Jantec Services which supplies and installs dispensing and other equipment for public houses.

Dobson deal raises question marks

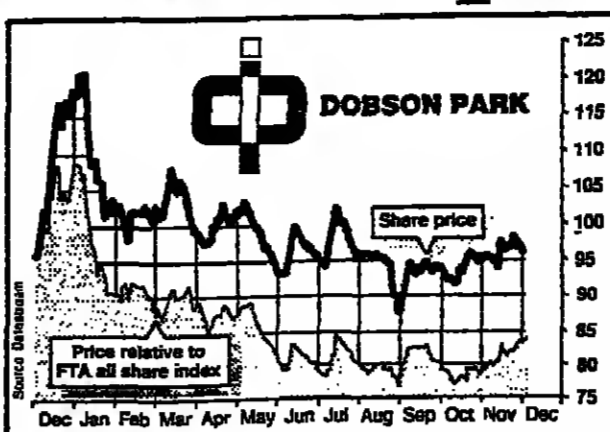
When last July Dobson Park Industries bought MS International's mining equipment division and simultaneously disposed of its 28.3 per cent holding in MS, it looked the perfect deal. Dobson got the bit of MS it really wanted when it launched its abortive £33 million bid earlier in the year, while MS was freed from the threat of a new Dobson bid.

MS also got a very attractive price for its mining equipment division - just how attractive becomes clearer with Dobson's preliminary results. Dobson paid £12.5 million cash for the division, and lost a further £2 million or so on the placing of MS shares. It also provided an additional £7.9 million against reserves for reorganization costs.

In all Dobson appears to have paid £22.4 million for an annual profit stream of £1.2 million before tax, rising to £1.9 million after reorganization. Admittedly, the deal makes Dobson joint market leader with Dowty, but it is questionable how desirable it is to be a leading player in a declining industry. Analysts will also raise a question mark over the accounting treatment of the £2 million loss on the MS share disposal.

Caradon

Caradon is hoping to be the exception that proves the rule - a building materials stock that uses its concentration on quality-branded products to evade the much-predicted downturn in the building industry. It relies for 75 per cent of its sales on the housing repair and maintenance market, set to rise by 7 per cent in the current year and 3 per cent in 1989, according to a building materials industry forecast published yesterday.



The Everest double glazing business, performing miserably when it was bought from RTZ in May, should be good for future growth beyond the current financial year as Caradon sees the benefit of cost-cutting, a more focused approach to marketing, and incentive packages for its sales force - all noticeably lacking under its previous ownership.

Caradon's pre-tax profits of £15.4 million in the half year to October 4, up from £9 million last time, included only a minimal contribution from Everest. Caradon's core businesses, which include Twyford's Bathrooms, Mira showers and Celfumour cladding, saw a 15 per cent volume rise during the first half, and the company claims no sign of a sales downturn since.

Caradon believes it should be able to raise Everest profits to 10 or 12 per cent of sales, now running at £120 million a year, once reorganization and revitalization is complete. This would be on the basis of a 6 per cent market share in this country, which could be expanded to 10 per cent within 5 years.

A total dividend for the year of 10.5p would imply an unexciting 4.3 per cent yield. The shares remain one of the few growth stocks in the sector, but are unlikely to do much in the short term.

Norcros

Has Norcros won the battle in order to lose the war? The company, still bearing the scars of the narrow escape from Williams Holdings, has swapped its UBM builders merchants business for the Crosby manufacturing arm of Meyer International.

Norcros had always struggled to make a success of UBM, too small in a market dominated by the big sheds of the DIY groups, and decided it would feel more comfortable concentrating on manufacturing building products rather than distributing them. But the sharp rise in interest rates is bound to choke off consumer spending, particularly at the refurbishment end of the trade where its ceramics business could be a big casualty.

Results for the first half of the year, announced yesterday, failed to impress the stock market and left analysts cautious about the future. It is difficult to argue with them. Norcros even appears to have lost its long-standing speculative appeal. Other building companies, who might have fancied bidding, are likely to be too preoccupied with their own problems although that may change if Norcros shares suddenly become very cheap.

Lexicon cuts its losses and maintains payout

Lexicon, the troubled Boston, Mass., manufacturer of specialist audio equipment with a London quotation, has cut its losses to \$906,000 (£484,000) for the year ended August 31. Sales rose 43 per cent to \$9.9 million. The company says it has reached break-even point during the last few months. It recently introduced three products for the high-end consumer and the small studio market.

The three were introduced during the second half of the year, but sales and profitability were hit by start-up delays, which, the company claims, have been rectified. The improvement in the dollar/yen exchange rate, the use of off-shore manufacturing and spin-offs from the high end of digital processing technology, have helped to achieve the improvement. Costs may decline further as research and development expenditure, as a percentage of sales, is likely to fall.

Hinari switch towards European manufacture

Hinari, which claims to be Britain's fastest-growing consumer electronics group, is switching more of its sourcing to Europe. It already has a factory in Britain. It also has a stock market flotation as an option on its road to rapid expansion, which is making Mr Brian Palmer, Hinari's founder and chairman, the counterpart in a largely different sector of Mr Alan Sugar at Amstrad.



Amstrad is mainly involved in computers while Hinari - a name designed to give a "Japanese" flavour - is in small domestic electrical appliances, television sets and video and audio products. There is some direct competition with Amstrad, notably in video cassette recorders. Hinari Consumer Electronics, based in Scotland, was formed in 1985 and in the first year had a pre-tax profit of £152,000 on sales of £10.5 million. This year a £3.1 million profit is expected on a turnover of £70.5 million; sales in the first six months doubled on last year. Next year sales are forecast at £120 million. About 8 per cent of Hinari products are made at Cumbernauld, near Glasgow, where its products are also designed. So far a range of kettles is manufactured - Hinari claims 10 per cent of Britain's electric kettles market - but a new product is also to be made there. This is a combined compact disc, cassette deck and radio being made in the Far East but due for assembly at Cumbernauld from April. Hinari sources mainly from Hong Kong, Taiwan and Japan largely because of the availability of components in the Far East. Pricing is crucial but Mr Palmer is looking to bring more manufacturing to Europe as the single market approaches and the possibility of trade barriers looms. Sourcing of TV sets in Spain is being planned for next year. "I would like to think we will manufacture more of our own products," he said. Hinari started with "me-too", or copy-cat products, but two years ago moved into innovative ones.

B&T up to £4.5m at half time

Brown & Tawse, the Dundee steel stockholder and pipe distributor, had a 28 per cent rise in pre-tax profit to £4.5 million in the six months to end-September.

Despite a rise in interest charges from £546,000 to £831,000, margins continued to improve on turnover up 19 per cent to £81 million. The chairman says acquisitions and new branches reinforced sales growth and profits. The interim dividend has been raised by 19 per cent to 2.85p per share on earnings up 28 per cent to 10.2p. B&T says the second half has started well.

Appeal delays merger case

A hearing on the plan for a merger between London Life and Australian Mutual Provident was yesterday adjourned until next Monday. This will allow time for the hearing of an appeal by Mr Julian Byng, a London Life policyholder, over the validity of the vote in October which gave an 85 per cent majority in favour of the merger plan. Mr Byng alleged the first of two extraordinary meetings to decide the matter should not have been adjourned without a vote. He is appealing against last month's High Court ruling by Mr Justice Vinelott that London Life's management acted properly in adjourning the meeting.

TI offshoots sold for total of £141m

TI Group, the specialist engineering concern, is selling two of its motor components companies for £110 million in cash to Arvin Industries of the US. The two companies, TI Cheswick and TI Bainbridge, have a strong presence in the European silencer market but little business in North America or other world markets, said TI.

TI is also selling its wholly-owned subsidiary, Standard Tube Canada, to Ferrum Inc for about £31 million. The Canadian activities did not fit in with TI's strategy. TI added that substantial investment would be needed to develop TI Cheswick and TI Bainbridge into world leaders. The required level of investment would not represent the best possible use of TI's resources. The sales are in line with TI's current strategy of developing businesses which can command technological or market share leadership. The combined 1987 turnover of Cheswick and Bainbridge totalled £104.6 million. Combined operating profit was £11.3 million. Unaudited management accounts for the 10 months to the end of October show sales of £105.6 million and operating profit of £12.2 million. Net assets at the end of last year were £23.4 million. Effectively TI is selling the subsidiaries for about 13 times expected earnings and will receive a net inflow of about £140 million. This will reduce gearing to below 15 per cent.

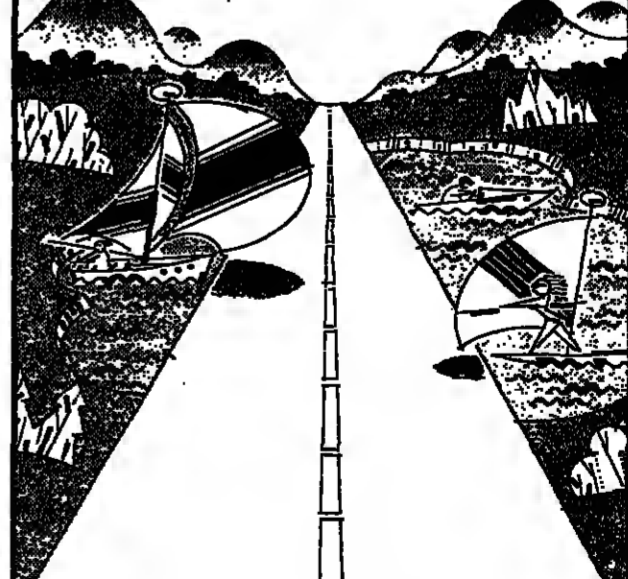
Opec output at record

A record 23 million barrels of oil a day was produced by members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries last month, even as the 13-nation cartel was holding discussions about ways of cutting its output. The Opec accord reached at the end of last month set production at 18.5 million barrels per day from January 1. And according to the Middle East Economic Survey weekly newsletter, published yesterday, projected production figures for this month are set even higher.

COMPANY BRIEFS

- HARMONY LEISURE (Int)** Pre-tax: £0.258 (£0.109)m EPS: 0.72p (0.66p) Div: Nil (nil)
- MORRIS ASHBY (Int)** Pre-tax: £0.55 (£0.336)m EPS: 4.33p (3.73p) Div: 1.7p
- STERLING PUBL. (Int)** Pre-tax: £0.522 (£0.202)m EPS: 1.91p (0.93p) Div: Nil

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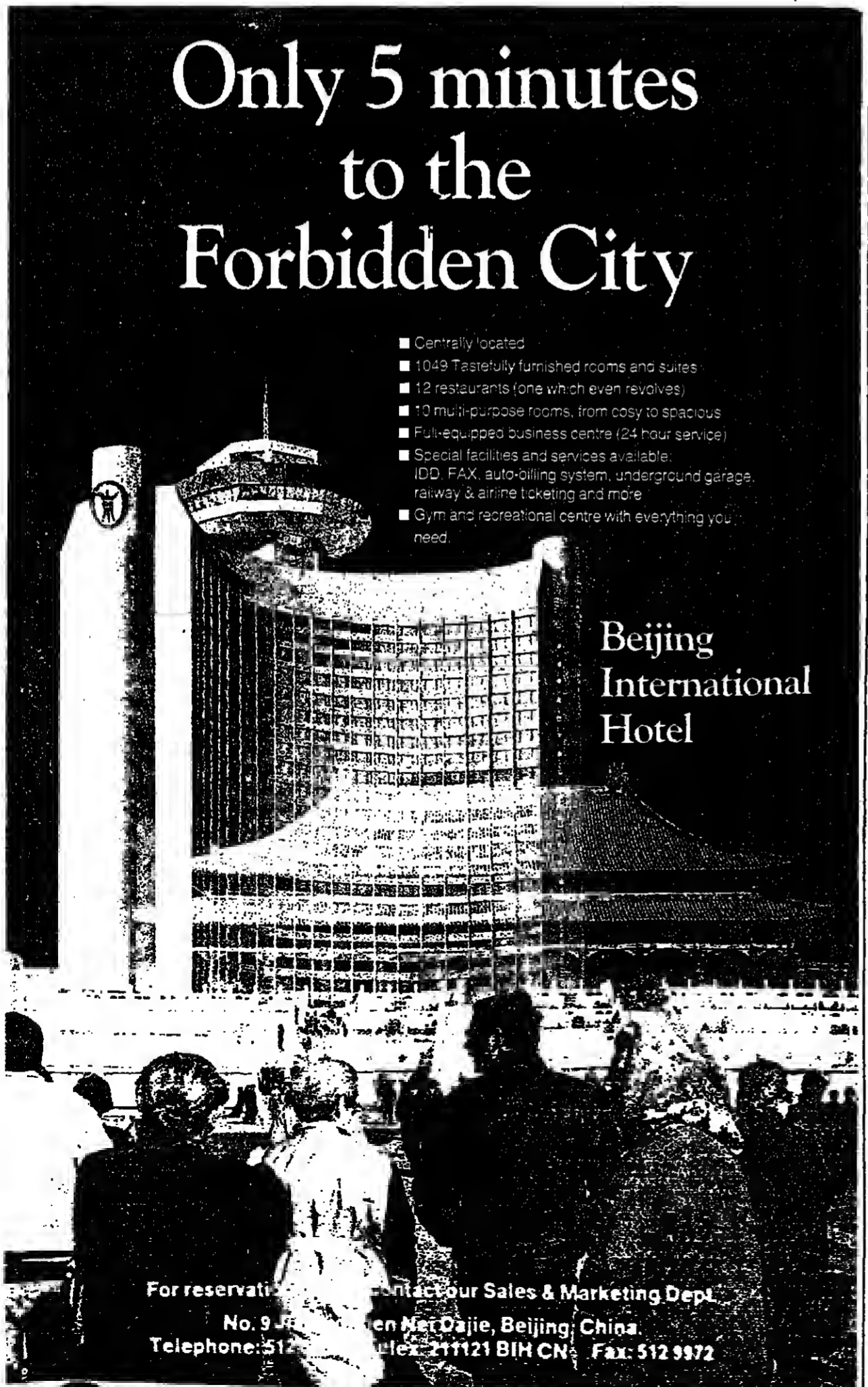
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BUSINESS LETTERS

Conflict of loyalty during bids

From Mr J.V.C. Butcher Sir, Your report (November 29) about the request from United Biscuits (UB) to its main banker, the Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS), for an assurance that RBS will not support a hostile bid for UB, raises a major ethical issue facing banks and others who provide services of a professional type.

Where a conflict of loyalties between clients arises, it should surely be the duty of the "professional" to withdraw support from the client that has caused the conflict, rather than ditch the other client at the very time it needs the "professional" most, and rather than taking action on the basis of the professional's own self-interest, which so often happens.

The image of Britain abroad

From Miss Angela Simpson Sir, Could I make a plea through your pages for greater courtesy and consideration from British firms who export their products. I help out in a small company here in Greece, which imports a very wide range of products from many countries, notably the UK. I am appalled by the frequency with which I am asked to explain the behaviour of UK companies both large and small. This behaviour ranges from simply not answering telegrams, through letters which are terse to the point of rudeness, to deliberate disregard of instructions on procedures for importing into this country.

Using interest rates to curb inflation

From Mr J. Hutton Sir, Raising interest rates is supposed to bring the rate of inflation down. Yet according to Messrs Thomas and Saunders in their Gilt-Edged article (November 28), over three quarters of personal borrowing is in housing. For many such people interest charges are now adjusted annually. Next year the debt service ratio will climb to over 10 per cent. However, for the one and a half million new home buyers larger than average debts could become an onerous burden.

Ethics in question

From J. D. G. Berry Sir, Following the acquisition of estate agencies by a number of financial institutions, including banks and insurance companies, I would respectfully ask the use of your columns to inquire whether banking and insurance ethics will be applied by such estate agencies to their business or whether we should expect estate agency ethics to be applied by banks and insurance companies to their business.

Lloyd's policy

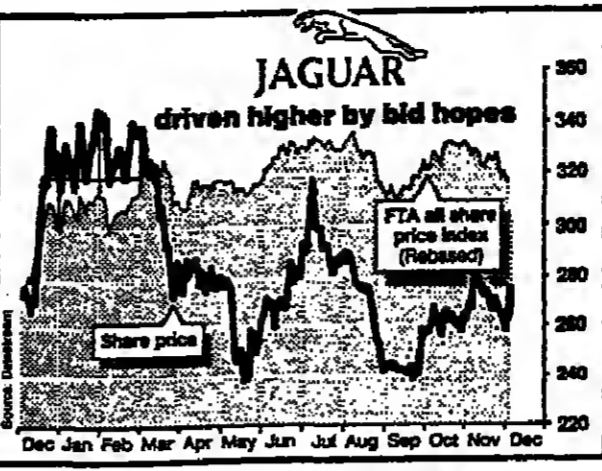
From Mr Robert Banks MP Sir, I have been a member of Lloyd's for some years now, insuring myself with a "stop loss" policy. My managing agent has recently written to me to say that he cannot guarantee that a policy will be available next year.

No room at the top of Rover for both Day and Simpson

From Mr Noel Falconer Sir, George Simpson, whom The Engineer recognizes as "an extremely energetic man" with "a taste for running his own show," is to become managing director of Rover Group on January 1.

STOCK MARKET

Wall Street surge lifts shares



A strong, mid-day performance by Wall Street restored some equilibrium to weak share prices in London yesterday. Depressed dealers marked prices lower on the news of the 2 per cent month-on-month rise in retail sales, fearing that inflationary pressures within the economy had not diminished.

Ford and General Motors were again being mentioned. Both classes of Hamersson Property Investment made progress, the ordinary rising 9p to 936p, after 938p, while the "A" gained 12p to 899p, on talk that a counter-bid to the £1.5 billion hostile bid from Rodamco, the Dutch property group, is close.

The market should bear some of Mr Allen Shepperd, chairman of Grand Metropolitan, has shrugged off the disappointment of losing Irish Distillers by taking a significant stake in Wieserwald, a West German restaurant chain. Grand Met shares closed 1p lower at 445p.

traded on Searg reached 645.4 million with the British Steel party-paid shares - which closed with a 2 1/2p premium at 62 1/2p accounting for 261 million. The narrower FT 30-share index finished 0.7 of a point lower at 1,439.0.

Whispers in the market went as far as suggesting that Volkswagen Audi, the West German car manufacturer, will attempt to acquire a 14.9 per cent holding in Jaguar today via a dawn raid. The West Germans are said to be particularly keen to get into the driving seat at Jaguar before the European trade barriers disappear in 1992.

Enterprise moved up 3p to 481p and Lanes cheapened 3p to 451p as word went round that news regarding the sale of Lanes's 25 per cent stake in Enterprise is imminent. Dealers still believe that Elf Aquitaine is the buyer at about £5 a share and expect details before the end of the week.

ALPHA STOCKS

Table listing various stocks under the heading 'ALPHA STOCKS' with columns for Vol, 1000, and prices for various companies like AGT, Abbey, and A&L.

WALL STREET

Table listing various stocks under the heading 'WALL STREET' with columns for Dec 1, Dec 2, Dec 3, Dec 4, Dec 5, Dec 6, and prices for various companies like AMR, ASA, and Allied Life.

Dow edges ahead in early deals

New York (Reuters) - Prices were steady on higher ground in early trading yesterday as the market recovered from Friday's 10-point decline after a surprisingly strong employment report. The Dow Jones industrial average rose 7 points to 2,099.28.

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

Table listing various options under the heading 'TRADITIONAL OPTIONS' with columns for Last Dealings, Last Dealings, Last Dealings, and prices for various companies like Agropo, Alcan, and Alcan.

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

Table listing various options under the heading 'LONDON TRADED OPTIONS' with columns for Strike, Bid, Ask, and prices for various companies like Agropo, Alcan, and Alcan.

RECENT ISSUES

Table listing various recent issues under the heading 'RECENT ISSUES' with columns for Name, Price, and other details for companies like Agropolis, Alcan, and Alcan.

CANADIAN PRICES

Table listing various Canadian prices under the heading 'CANADIAN PRICES' with columns for Name, Price, and other details for companies like Agropo, Alcan, and Alcan.

It should be a matter of great concern to "names" that Lloyd's have breached their age-old reputation for placing insurance for anything asked for, and more especially for exposure to unlimited liability. Where else can we insure against losses if Lloyd's won't? Yours faithfully, ROBERT BANKS, House of Commons, November 27.

I am basically proud to be British but all too frequently I am made very ashamed by people far removed from the football hooligans, who create havoc everywhere, who are the only ones apparently to hit the headlines for the damage done to "Our Image Abroad." Yours faithfully, ANGELA SIMPSON, Mimozas 32A, Ekali 14565, Athens, Greece, November 16.

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Advertisement for THE TIMES STOCKWATCH service, featuring the text 'YOUR HOT-LINE TO THE STOCK WATCH STOCK EXCHANGE' and the phone number 0898 141 141.

Advertisement for THE TIMES STOCKWATCH service, detailing how it works and the benefits of membership, including access to financial reports and news services.

Membership Application form for THE TIMES STOCKWATCH service, including fields for name, address, telephone, and occupation, along with a section for the applicant's signature and date.

Advertisement for Caradon plc, titled 'RECORD INTERIM RESULTS', showing financial performance for 1988 and 1987, including turnover, operating profits, pre-tax profits, earnings per share, and dividends per share.

Large vertical advertisement on the right side of the page, partially obscured and containing various text and graphics, including the word 'million' and 'Caradon'.

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From your Portfolio gold card check your eight share price movements, on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily or accumulator dividend figures. If it matches or better this figure you have won outright or a share of the daily or accumulator prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

Table with columns: No., Company, Group, Price, Change, % Change, Dividend, Yield. Lists various companies like Taylor Woodrow, Chemicals, etc.

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

Table with columns: MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI, SAT, Total. For weekly dividend tracking.

BRITISH FUNDS

1988 High Low Stock Price Change %

Table listing various funds like SHORTS (Under Five Years), FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS, OVER FIFTEEN YEARS with their performance metrics.

UNDATED

Table listing undated funds with their performance metrics.

INDEX LINKED

Table listing index-linked funds with their performance metrics.

BANKS, DISCOUNT HP

Table listing banks and discount houses with their performance metrics.

ELECTRICALS

Table listing electrical companies with their performance metrics.

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES Late recovery

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began November 28. Dealings end December 9. Contango day December 12. Settlement day December 19. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (a) denotes Alpha Stocks. (VOLUMES: PAGE 26).

BREWERIES

Table listing brewery companies like T. T. Denby, Watney, etc.

BUILDING, ROADS

Table listing building and road companies like Bovis Lend Lease, etc.

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

Table listing chemical and plastic companies like ICI, etc.

DRAPERY, STORES

Table listing drapery and store companies like Debenhams, etc.

HOTELS, CATERERS

Table listing hotel and catering companies like Whitbread, etc.

INDUSTRIALS A-D

Table listing industrial companies in the A-D range.

FINANCE, LAND

Table listing finance and land companies.

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

Table listing financial trusts.

FOODS

Table listing food companies.

L-R

Table listing companies in the L-R range.

S-Z

Table listing companies in the S-Z range.

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

Table listing motor and aircraft companies.

NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS

Table listing newspaper and publishing companies.

OILS, GAS

Table listing oil and gas companies.

INSURANCE

Table listing insurance companies.

LEISURE

Table listing leisure companies.

MINING

Table listing mining companies.

PROPERTY

Table listing property companies.

SHIPPING

Table listing shipping companies.

SHOES, LEATHER

Table listing shoe and leather companies.

TEXTILES

Table listing textile companies.

TOBACCOS

Table listing tobacco companies.

Portfolio PLUS Accumulator

DAILY DIVIDEND £4,000 Claims required for 36 points ACCUMULATOR £36,000 Claims better than 36 points Claimants should ring 0254-53272

OVERSEAS TRADERS

Table listing overseas traders and their performance.

PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING

Table listing paper, print, and advertising companies.

PROPERTY

Table listing property companies.

SHIPPING

Table listing shipping companies.

SHOES, LEATHER

Table listing shoe and leather companies.

TEXTILES

Table listing textile companies.

TOBACCOS

Table listing tobacco companies.

DISCLAIMER

© Ex-dividend & Ex-entitlement figures are based on the latest available information. The information is provided for general information only and does not constitute an offer of any securities. No responsibility is accepted for any loss or damage arising from the use of this information.

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

Main table containing unit trust information, including columns for fund names, managers, and performance metrics.

UNLISTED SECURITIES

Table of unlisted securities with columns for company names, prices, and other financial data.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

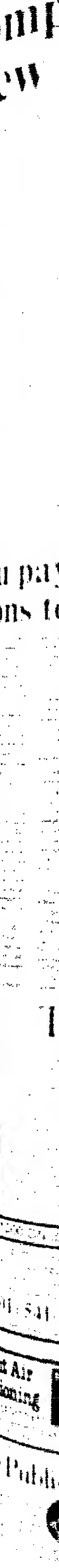
Table of foreign exchange rates for various currencies, including Sterling, Dollar, and Euro.

MONEY MARKETS

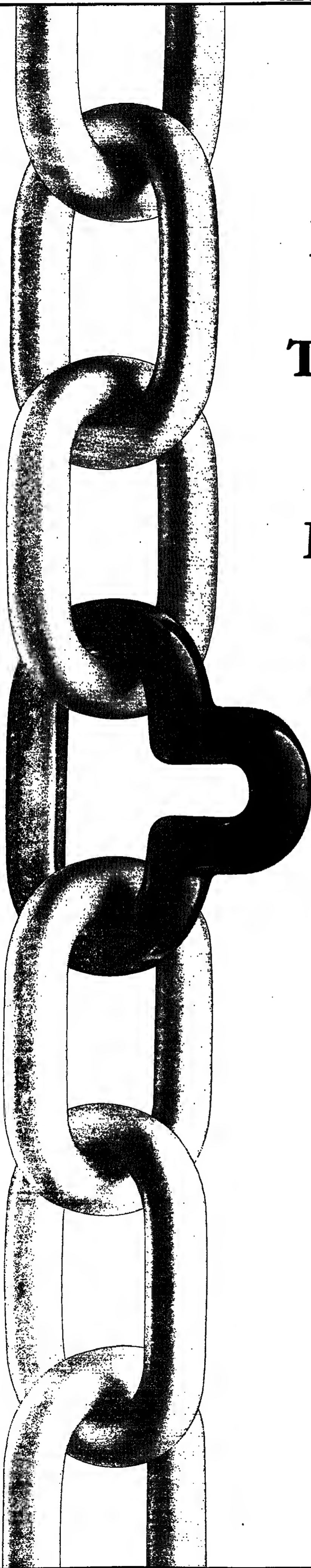
Table of money market rates, including Euro money deposits and bullion prices.

COMMODITIES

Table of commodity prices for various goods like oil, metals, and agricultural products.







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# HORIZONS

In the first article of a two-part series, Ann Hills looks at high-level opportunities in Washington

## Advice and consent in a top posting

At 10 o'clock on a November evening our ambassador in Washington, Sir Anthony Ackland, was escorting Mrs Thatcher to Blair House, where she was Ronald Reagan's guest.

Lady Ackland was speaking at a glittering dinner to raise money for the Washington Home, where she and other embassy wives are volunteers, comforting elderly residents in the long-term wing, and younger patients with Aids in the hospice.

The ambassador and his staff work late into the night. The Acklands live in the residence next door to the office in Massachusetts Avenue, which remains open around the clock — vital, particularly as London is five hours ahead.

The staff in Britain's premier embassy are 529, of which 325 are locally employed (some with British backgrounds) tend to occupy posts such as secretaries, commercial officers, security guards and drivers.

Of those posted from London, 113 are employed by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and 145 no defence matters, including civilians employed by the Ministry of Defence — reflecting the

importance in the embassy order of priorities of arms control, the East-West power balance and the future of Nato.

Then there is the consular department, headed by Fleur Fraser, commercial and economic sections, Press and public relations — and, of course, the political (chancery) role of the Foreign Office. We are an annex of Whitehall, not a typical embassy, being double the size of embassies in Paris and Bonn," explains Francis Cornish, who heads the information section.

Francis, along with other senior staff, expects to stay about four years. More junior people have shorter terms — two to three years — but they share a common enjoyment: Washington is the ultimate seat of power.

Surprisingly, embassy staff are not hemmed in by bureaucracy. The impression they give is of being able to exercise initiative: "I expected the diplomatic service to be stuffy," says Richard Clarke, for whom comprehensive school was followed by the University of East Anglia. A friend said he should apply to the Foreign Office. Now, aged 33, he is a fast-rising First Secretary in the politico-military side, with a key role in arms control.

"A lot of my work deals with highly confidential material," he says. He finds that "people are approachable, but you have to be careful not to be used by one power function against another."

Mr Clarke is representing British interests in helping policymakers in the US — for instance, in relation to recently-proposed legislation which would have forced Europe to foot the bill for US troops in their countries. "I coordinated the lobbying campaign with other countries and spent a lot of time on Capitol Hill."

Eventually the campaigners won and the punitive measures were modified. "Millions of dollars were involved," he says.

Mr Clarke, who enjoys the social life and allows time to indulge his fascination in the American Civil War, is nearly half way through his four years.

He joined the Foreign Office in the executive officer stream, in the western European department, from where he transferred to the faster-moving administrative stream.

Liz Webb, the Third Secretary in Chancery (the equivalent of Mr Clarke's former role in South America) joined the far eastern department of the Foreign Office



three of the rising young stars of our US embassy: Liz Webb, left; Allison Crawford, above right, and Richard Pratt

documents and administrative details. She has a typewriter, not a computer, "for security reasons". The job is hectic, "keeping one step ahead of the chancery", which entails listening to news and being "in the middle of what is going on".

That sense of being in the midst of a huzzling political scene is helped by "the very open society here," according to Richard Pratt, aged 39, the economic counsellor, seconded from the Treasury to undertake this key role, which specializes in banking and taxation and involves lobbying.

For example, he helped in improving a Bill passed by Congress to "launder" by drug traffickers. It would have entailed foreign banks keeping records of US currency transactions worldwide. "We lobbied hard and fast with other countries," he says, and the legislation was modified.

The scale of salaries in the embassy are modest — those interviewed earned from about £10,000 to more than £20,000, plus free accommodation. In turn they work beyond office hours, appreciating that Washington is a way of life — a prize posting.

Inquiries about the 1989 entrance exam can be obtained from the Personnel Policy Department, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, London SW1 (01-210 8121)

Thursday: Going in the top in Washington

## Graduates showing enterprise

More graduates are entering permanent work sooner and in a wider range of occupations, including self-employment, says a major graduates employment survey published last week.

What do graduates do?, compiled annually by the Association of Graduate Careers Advisory Services, found that in 1987, 56.4 per cent of university graduates, 61.5 per cent from polytechnics, and 63.6 per cent from colleges of higher education, had started work shortly after graduation. Unemployment levels are also down. These were, respectively, 5.9 per cent, 5.2 per cent and 8.3 per cent six months after graduation.

"The numbers of graduates becoming self-employed or setting up businesses straight from higher education have shown an interesting rise during the last year or so," says Alan Jones, senior careers adviser at Huddersfield Polytechnic. "The notion of the 'enterprise society' seems to be getting through to students."

Students in school sixth forms and colleges of further education can draw considerable encouragement from the continuing trend towards earlier permanent work. The authors of the survey conclude that overall, career expectations and prospects are better with a degree than without one.

Copies of What Do Graduates Do? are available, priced £2.50 plus 75p postage, from Hobsons Publishing, Bateman Street, Cambridge, CB2 1LZ.

# PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS 01-481 1066

A MAJOR CHALLENGE IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT

## COUNTY SURVEYOR

Salary up to £48,000 pa Based in Winchester

Hampshire is one of Britain's largest and most progressive County Councils. We are searching for an individual with the professional expertise and management credentials to meet the challenge of leading our County Surveyors Department through a period of rapid change.

You will be making a significant contribution to a wide variety of issues which currently include a major transport strategy review, the implementation of a management plan plus many other new initiatives. Your objective will therefore be to ensure Hampshire has the best advice to support its population, and buoyant economy.

Candidates must be able to demonstrate achievement in senior management and have the skills and presence to represent the interests of the County Council in civil engineering and related matters, both locally and nationally.

In addition to a significant salary this key position will also receive the following benefits:

- Personal allowance of £1,700
- Pension enhancement at age 60
- Entry package on relocation, including a mortgage subsidy
- Car leasing

For full details contact the County Manpower Services Officer, The Castle, Winchester, Hampshire SO23 8UJ. Tel: (0962) 847700.

Closing date: 6th January 1989.



## APPEALS AND PUBLICITY SECRETARY

The Distressed Gentlefolk's Aid Association, an old-established charity, with a turnover of £7 million a year, is seeking a person to take charge of all its appeals and publicity work. The post would be based in the Association's headquarters in Kensington, but a certain amount of travelling round the country would be involved.

We give financial support to almost 1,000 people, and run Residential Care and Nursing Homes for a further 370. The charity is by nature somewhat specialised and it does not undertake the kind of high-profile, national fund-raising appropriate to charities with a wider popular appeal.

Previous experience of fund-raising for a charity would be an advantage. We are looking for someone who would be sensitive to the DGAA's position, and who could both undertake the development of new sources of support and give practical assistance with major social events, as well as overseeing an advertising programme of over £150,000 a year.

Salary will be negotiable around £17,000 p.a. There is free medical insurance cover and a generous pension scheme.

Applicants should send a full C.V. as soon as possible to Miss Sue Rigby at the address below:

DISTRESSED GENTLEFOLK'S AID ASSOCIATION  
VICARAGE GATE HOUSE  
VICARAGE GATE  
KENSINGTON  
LONDON W8 4AQ  
TELEPHONE: 01 - 229 9341

### LEGAL

## Lancashire County Council

An Equal Opportunities Employer welcoming applications from all sections of the community.

### SOLICITOR (2 POSTS)

Salary: Scale PO (33-41) £13,497 - £16,782 p.a.

Required in the Chief Executive/Clerk's Department, County Hall, Preston, to deal with Child Care.

Each appointment will be made at four salary points within the range PO 33-41. However, the right applicant can expect commencing salary above the minimum of the range, the top of the scale being £15,417 - £16,782. Benefits include casual car user categorisation, assisted car purchase scheme and, where appropriate, generous removal and disturbance allowances.

In addition to qualified solicitors, applications will be considered from those about to qualify and from barristers. Whilst the posts are full time, applicants interested in part time work only are welcome to apply and will be seriously considered. Previous local government experience, although desirable, is not essential.

Working for one of the largest local authorities in the UK will provide opportunities for advancing your career in local government. The County Council also has a good record of promotion to more senior posts within the authority itself. Lancashire offers an attractive combination of a plentiful supply of quality housing, large areas of scenic countryside, a strong public transport presence and an excellent motorway network.

Application form and details from Office Management Section, Chief Executive/Clerk's Department, PO Box 78, County Hall, PR1 8XJ, quoting Ref No 41/88/155.

Closing date: 16th December 1988.

## Assistant Solicitor

up to £15,417 per annum plus leased car scheme

This important vacancy has arisen in our busy legal office based in the centre of the thriving Cathedral city.

We are looking for a recently qualified Solicitor (or one about to qualify) from either the public sector or private practice to deal with a wide variety of legal work: principally advocacy, housing, planning, economic development and commercial work.

Opportunity will be given for attending Committees and for personal/career development.

Benefits will include:

- leased car scheme
- staff restaurant
- flex-time
- full reimbursement of removal, legal and estate agents fees
- resettlement allowances
- separation/odging allowances
- opportunity for sponsored post qualification training

If you would like to discuss the post informally, please ring Robin Moseley (Ext 2124) or Charles Kerry (Ext 2116).

Further details and an application form may be obtained from the Personnel Officer, Chester City Council, Town Hall, Chester CH1 2AL. Tel: (0244) 224324 (Ext 2136). Closing date for applications is 16 December, 1988.

Council of the CITY OF CHESTER

## LINCOLNSHIRE MAGISTRATES' COURTS COMMITTEE

### A MAJOR MANAGEMENT CHALLENGE

#### APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF OFFICER AND CLERK TO THE COMMITTEE

Salary up to £33,000 p.a. (pay award pending)

Management Consultants have carried out a major review of the Magistrates' Courts Service in Lincolnshire. To implement the review and lead the service through major change the committee wish to appoint a Chief Officer and Clerk to the Courts Committee.

The new post will be the head of the service and principal adviser to the committee. He or she shall be responsible for the management of the Courts Service, including finance, premises, personnel, the introduction of new technology, for servicing the committee itself and if required, the training of magistrates and staff. The postholder will be supported by a small secretariat, the office likely to be based in the historic and pleasant Cathedral City of Lincoln in the middle of rural Lincolnshire.

The County's 15 Petty Sessional Divisions are proposed to be reorganised into nine divisions and three clerkships, each to be headed by a Justice's Clerk exercising his statutory responsibilities.

The Chief Officer will be a full-time free standing Chief Officer and Clerk with as broad a managerial and financial experience and knowledge of the workings of the Magistrates' Courts Service as possible. Accordingly, no particular professional background is prescribed. Outstanding Clerks to the Justices, general managers, lawyers, accountants and administrators capable of meeting this broad requirement and demonstrating ability to plan, direct and control an effective and efficient Courts Service are invited to apply.

In addition to the salary the following package is offered. Relocation expenses up to £8,250 in exceptional cases, a leased car with an employer's contribution up to £1,500, mortgage facilities, Group BUPA Scheme of substantially reduced subscriptions and a good occupational pension scheme. The committee will be interested in discussing with applicants non-traditional forms of contract.

The closing date for applications is 31st December 1988. Interviews will be held early in January.

The job description and further details are available from Mr. C. R. Houldershaw, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln LN1 1YL. Tel. Lincoln (0522) 552222.

R. J. D. Proctor, Clerk to the Magistrates' Courts Committee.

### CAMPAIGN/DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

Templeton College is launching a fundraising campaign in close collaboration with the Campaign for Oxford fundraising for Management Studies.

A Director is sought to provide executive support for the campaign task force and to take responsibility for other capital and annual fundraising.

The position will demand accomplished interpersonal skills, the talent to apply them at the highest level, and oral and written skills to present and negotiate a case clearly, concisely and persuasively. Experience with higher education, management training, fundraising or marketing would be desirable.

The salary is negotiable but likely to be in the region of £25,000.

For further details contact Mrs Ann Bond in the President's office.

Templeton College  
Oxford OX1 5NY Tel: (0865) 735422. Telex 63147 alt. TEMCOL. Telefax: (0865) 736574

## NORTH MANCHESTER HEALTH AUTHORITY

### DISTRICT HEAD OF PLANNING & ADMINISTRATION

27,540 p.a. plus opportunity for performance related pay. (pay increase pending)

Following the appointment of the previous postholder to a Unit General Management post, we seek a self-reliant and enthusiastic person able to work under pressure and who has a successful record of achievement in a large scale organisation.

The postholder will be a management board member with responsibility for all our Health Service planning, Central Administration and various District functions including Authority Support, Education and Training, Works and Personnel.

This is a post with many challenges in the District that recently won the Sunday Times 'Best of Health' competition.

Informal enquiries to Mr. C.M.H. Brown, District General Manager, Ext. 2828

Job Description and application form from District Personnel Department, North Manchester Health Authority, District Offices, Central Drive, Crumpsall, Manchester M8 9BQ. Tel: 061-755 4667, Ext. 2991. Closing date for completed applications: 9 December 1988. Please quote ref: D60

WE ARE AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

## LEGAL ADVISER IN WEST SUFFOLK MAGISTRATES' COURTS

£11,418 - £16,029 (Pay Award Pending)

Applications are invited for the above appointment from barristers or solicitors and recently qualified lawyers may apply.

There are six Magistrates' Courts in the West Suffolk area and this is an opportunity to join a team of seven lawyers at the Bury St Edmunds office.

Applications marked 'Confidential' giving details of age, qualifications and experience, together with the names of two referees, should be forwarded to me as soon as possible.

Michael J. Guy, LLB,  
Clerk to the Justices  
Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds  
Suffolk IP33 1HF

## LEGAL SERVICES DIVISION SENIOR SOLICITOR (ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES)

POF/G £15,417-£18,078

We require a Senior Solicitor (or Barrister) to work in the team providing legal services. You will deal with a range of environmental services including planning, highways and waste disposal.

County Offices are based in Melkton which is spectacularly attractive but with affordable housing, on the boundary of the Peak District National Park and close to Chesterfield, Derby, Nottingham and Sheffield.

Car allowance and relocation expenses scheme.

The post is full time but applicants interested in any form of part time working are welcome to apply and will be seriously considered.

For job description and application form contact Head of Legal Services, County Offices, Melkton, Derbyshire, DE4 3AG, tel: (0829) 580000 ext 7322.

Closing date: 21 December, 1988.

The Council's policy is that all people receive equal treatment regardless of their sex, marital status, sexual orientation, race, creed, colour, ethnic or national origin, or disability.

**DERBYSHIRE**  
County Council  
Supports Nuclear Free Zones





THE LAW

Correcting miscarriages of justice



The courts are not on the side of those wrongly convicted, Peter Ashman writes

Lord Devlin and Lord Scarman in The Times last week raised fundamental questions about the way our legal system deals with miscarriages of justice.

There has been a system of criminal appeals in England and Wales since 1904, and in Scotland since 1926, the purpose of which is to remedy such injustice.

almost impossible in practice to determine whether the courts of appeal are doing their job properly. It is a Herculean task to persuade the judges that the jury reached the wrong verdict in the absence of mistakes of law or unfairness on the part of the trial judge.

actually used its powers on the grounds that the jury reached the wrong verdict on the evidence. In the past 22 years, the court has had to deal with almost 6,000 applications for leave to appeal against conviction each year.

to the Erchequer of £963,000. But the Home Office, like the Scottish Office, will not even consider investigating complaints about the correctness of a conviction where it is alleged that the jury reached the wrong verdict on the evidence.

more than four years' imprisonment. It has to take account of the highly restrictive manner in which the Court of Appeal exercises its powers and the even greater reluctance of the Home and Scottish Offices to be persuaded that anything could have gone wrong at the trial or the appeal.

wards about evidence or proof. In the U.K., for example, one single piece of evidence is normally sufficient to convict in England and Wales, but in Scotland two pieces of evidence from independent sources.

House of Lords

Law Report December 6 1988

Court of Appeal

First 'for sale' board always lawful

Porter v Honey Before Lord Keith of Kinkel, Lord Elwyn-Jones, Lord Brandon of Oakbrook, Lord Griffiths and Lord Goff of Chieveley [Speeches December 1] An estate agent who displayed a "for sale" board on a property...

He would therefore, as a matter of necessary implication, read Class III(a) as if it contained the following italicised words: "... limited, in respect of each such sale or letting, to one advertisement that being the first advertisement displayed when more than one is displayed consisting of a board..."

approve regulations providing for such a result. As his Lordship read the explanatory note to the amended Class III(a) contained in the Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations (SI 1987 No 2227), which came into force on October 28, 1988, the amendment had been introduced to scotch the argument advanced in the Divisional Court by Mr Porter to the effect that the regulations permitted each advertiser to have one board rather than limiting the permission to one board for each sale or letting.

Department of the Environment v Thomas Bates and Son Ltd Before Lord Justice O'Connor, Lord Justice Nicholls and Lord Justice Taylor [Judgment November 24] Damages in negligence could not be recovered for the cost of remedial work to a building when such work was necessary only for the purpose of rendering the building fit to support its design load.

([1983] 2 AC 1) in rejecting the appellant's claim. Mr Laws submitted the judge was wrong to regard the instant case as governed by Firelli, a limitation case which was not specifically concerned with the problem of a present defect and merely anticipated damage.

been no danger. Danger would have arisen only if the loading in the lower block had increased towards the design load. Once warning was given there was no question of that happening. So, the remedial works were not to avert imminent danger, they were to enable the building to be used to the full extent of the design load.

Mr Laws said that was to avert imminent danger because (a) the word "imminent" should not be interpreted too restrictively as to time and (b) there would be danger if the building were to be used as it was intended or might be expected to be used.

was eliminated. It was not going to occur immediately, soon or at all. As to (b) the building could continue to be used as it had been, in safety, provided the load was not increased. The remedial works were done, therefore, not to avert otherwise inevitable danger but to restore the appellant the full capacity of the building for which they bargained by their under-lease.

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

JOHNSWOOD FARRER Personnel Consultants Specialists in Recruitment for the Legal Profession COMMERCIAL CONVEYANCERS Central London Salaries: £17,000-£50,000 +

FOSTER BAXTER COOKSEY TELFORD and the WEST MIDLANDS First Class Salary, First Class Experience First Class Opportunities For First Class Applicants

International Asset Finance Lawyers The continuing growth of our International Asset Finance Group has opened up new and exciting career opportunities for bright and energetic lawyers.

Matrimonial Solicitor An exciting opportunity exists for a young solicitor to join this prestigious practice. The work will encompass all aspects of family law within the firm's strong and expanding matrimonial group.

Twin COM Contr



A small man who found his name was worth \$1 million, a passport and Olympic gold

# Uplift to Turkish delight

CHRIS HARRIS

He is the man who went for a pee and was never seen again. He is 4ft 10in and the strongest man pound for pound in the world. He is an international political figure, the only Olympic weightlifter bought for a transfer fee, and he has set world records under three different names. He is not the sort of man you run into every day.

The theft of a name is, in one way, the ultimate in oppression. Naim Süleymanoğlu, a Bulgarian international weightlifter but an ethnic Turk — a Turkish speaker with a Turkish name — was ordered to change his name to Nounm Shalamanov.



Simon Barnes

Bill Shoemaker, the American jockey. He knows he is the best: everything else follows from there. Speaking through an interpreter, he said that his greatest achievements in life were winning his gold and moving to Turkey.

"I decided to escape in 1985, when they changed my name. That was the reason. There were other things — but it was the name most of all."

He had met exiled Turks and Bulgarians in Australia in 1985. "They warned me that they would change my name if I went back. But I didn't have the courage then." He was ready to go when he was in Melbourne in 1986 for the World Cup. Süleymanoğlu — Shalamanov — won it, naturally.

"I had found my friends again, and told them I wanted to escape. There was a banquet after the World Cup in a restaurant. I got up, pretending I was going to the loo, and just walked out into a car which my friends had waiting. I was not frightened at the time — I had taken the decision. I accepted it, just accepted the fact."

"The Bulgarians had no idea I planned to escape. I had been to many other places to compete, and had not escaped. There had not been an opportunity — but if I had known how easy it was, I would have done it earlier."

But Australia, without the pressures of big and powerful neighbours, was the perfect choice for escape, and is yet another illustration of Süleymanoğlu's political nous. After lying low in a safe house while the storm broke, he went to the Turkish Embassy. The red carpet was unrolled. He was flown to London, and then from London to Turkey. He journeyed the last leg of the journey in the Turkish Prime Minister's personal jet.

"The Turkish nation just embraced me. The Turkish Prime Minister treated me as his son. I was given endless opportunities." In a short time, Süleymanoğlu became a national treasure. But they had to pay through the nose for him.

Süleymanoğlu could not lift for Turkey in the Olympic Games until Bulgaria gave



Acceptable face: Süleymanoğlu was warmly embraced by the Turks, whose entrepreneurs turned cartwheels of glee

him permission to change his allegiance. The Bulgarians agreed. The asking price for forgiveness was a million dollars.

A truly remarkable sportsman is worth a frightening amount. Sport, above all other fields of human endeavor, is uniquely entertaining, uniquely prestigious, uniquely capable of capturing public attention. As the acceptable public face of Turkey, this phenomenal man, with his freakish size, the glamour of the defector and a marvelously self-contained public presence, was worth a fortune.

Those who wished to promote anything Turkish — tourism, politics, exports — could only turn cartwheels of glee.

Aid Süleymanoğlu himself

is fully aware of his own value. He used his victories coldly and deliberately to embarrass Bulgaria into releasing his family. "I had to wait three years. I was concerned for them — but not too much. Of course, the Bulgarians paid attention to them because they were my family — but I knew that because they were my family they could not do too much, because it would be known by the Press."

"After I won the European championship in Cardiff early this year, I said afterwards, that I hoped my family would soon be allowed to join me in Turkey. I knew that if the foreign Press reported this, the Bulgarians would be embarrassed. Every opportunity I found, I mentioned this.

And after the Olympics, in the Press conference, I said so again, and I know that affected the Bulgarians a lot."

So much so that they permitted his family to join him in October. Süleymanoğlu: champion, and deliverer: not bad for a man of 22.

Oh, and he has 35 world records to his various names, as well as a flat given to him by the Turkish Government. He has played his hand like a master. "My situation is excellent. The Turkish people are very close and warm-hearted. I was at home there at once. I just had to give something in return. The atmosphere — I just warmed up immediately. I have friends from Bulgaria I miss, of course. New friends are silver,

but old friends are gold. I am studying — sports studies — and I am learning English. For the rest, time will show."

He has the world, and certainly Turkey at his feet, and Barcelona 1992 in his sights. He ducks all questions about his future outside sport — business? politics? — but he could do almost anything he wanted. A great sportsman, a truly exceptional champion, he is in a unique position of power.

The Turkish Government say he is worth far more than a million dollars. Well, so is everybody else under any form of oppression anywhere in the world. But you have to be a sportsman before they will pay the asking price.

## RUGBY LEAGUE

### Widnes to provide sternest of tests for Murphy's men

By Keith Macklin

The moment of truth in the John Player Special Trophy has arrived for Alex Murphy. The St Helens manager has piloted his side with difficulty through ties against York, Hull and Wakefield Trinity, matches which were not expected to provide stern tests for the Saints, yet he has been the first to admit that they were streaky victories.

In two of them, against Hull and against Trinity last Sunday, St Helens played badly at the start, fell behind, and won only through strong finishing bursts.

Murphy and his team will not get away with this against Widnes in the first semi-final, at Central Park on Saturday. Widnes are in tremendous form and would certainly not allow an 18-2 lead to slip away as Wakefield did. They are a side without an apparent weakness, brimming with confidence, and can come from behind against the best of opposition as they proved when trailing 6-0 to Warrington on Saturday.

Murphy said after the game on Sunday that he was tired of criticism about "lacking a bit" and that critics would be eating their words when his side retain

the trophy they won against Leeds last season. If the Saints beat Widnes on Saturday, Murphy will certainly be entitled to generous apologies.

In the other semi-final, the winners of the Wigan v Hull Kingston Rovers replay will meet Bradford Northern at Headingley a week on Saturday. Northern are not the most spectacular side in the league, and they tend to rely on a hard-tackling heavy-weight pack to make progress, with the backs swooping in to pick up the half-chances.

However, since trophy semi-finals tend to be won by small margins and by strong-backing forwards, this may prove to be a virtue for Bradford. Their pack contains imposing names in Hobbs, Fairbank and the skilful and experienced Pinner, and neither Wigan nor Hull Kingston Rovers will underestimate their challenge.

Meanwhile, Shaun Edwards, Wigan's international half back, has had a most unlikely mishap. He has caught chicken-pox from his five-year-old brother.

**JOHN PLAYER SPECIAL TROPHY SEMI-FINAL DRAWS: St Helens v Widnes (Wigan, Dec 10), Hull Kingston Rovers v Wigan Bradford Northern (Headingley, Dec 17).**

## ICE HOCKEY

### Racers narrow the gap with two wins

By Norman de Mesquita

Although Durham Wasps and Tayside Tigers gave the sport the best possible publicity in Saturday's televised Norwich Union Cup final, Ayr Bruins and Murrayfield Racers showed the unacceptable face of ice hockey in their Heineken League match in Ayr on Saturday.

A brawl in the first period saw the ejection of two players from each side and, all though tempers were just about held in check, Sunday's return in Edinburgh was another niggling game which did little credit to either side.

Racers won both encounters comfortably to move to within two points of the Wasps at the top of the premier division: Nottingham Panthers are also mounting a realistic challenge and they had a successful Scottish weekend with wins over, Fife Flyers and Tayside Tigers.

Once again Panthers built their success on well organized defence and conceded only five goals in the two games. The Flyers had some excuse as Kármert, one of their Czechoslovak imports, was missing

because of a damaged ankle that could keep him out until after the turn of the year.

Solihull Barons surprisingly won away to Peterborough Pirates and they now have seven points, leaving Strathorn Red, slates, humbled at home by Whitley Warriors and still searching for their first point, even further adrift at the foot of the table.

London's division one sides also fared badly with Richmond Flyers thrashed by Deeside Dragons, for whom Perfini scored 14 goals and five assists, and Lee Valley Lions beaten at home by Cleveland Bombers, who had surrendered their unbeaten record to Medway Bears on Saturday.

**RESULTS: Heineken League: Premier division: Ayr Bruins 4, Murrayfield Racers 12, Fife Flyers 2, Nottingham Panthers 8, Murrayfield Racers 15, Ayr Bruins 8, Peterborough Pirates 5, Solihull Barons 7; Strathorn Red 5, Whitley Warriors 7; Tayside Tigers 3, Nottingham Panthers 6; Division one: Medway Bears 8, Cleveland Bombers 4, Swindon Wildcats 15, Sunderland Cheetahs 5, Cardiff Devils 16, Sunderland Cheetahs 1, Deeside Dragons 25, Richmond Flyers 5, Glasgow Eagles 6, Trafford Monarchs 5, Lee Valley Lions 2, Cleveland Bombers 5, Romford Raiders 4, Telford Tigers 10.**

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Rebel Song set to redeem reputation Cumani calls for levy changes

By Mandarin
Rebel Song, a beaten odds-on favourite last time, can redeem himself by winning division two of the Christmas Tree Chase at Leicester this afternoon...

Cumani calls for levy changes
Lea Cumani yesterday called for the abolition of the levy in its present form and suggested that racecourses should be able to charge bookmakers a copyright fee for the right to bet on their programmes...



Champion hurdler Celtic Shot (Peter Scudamore) returns to Cheltenham, the scene of his greatest triumph, on Saturday

Celtic Shot in line for Bula Hurdle

By George Rae
Celtic Shot faces a maximum possible seven rivals in the £20,000-added Charles Heidsieck Champagne Bula Hurdle at Cheltenham on Saturday...

FONTWELL PARK Selections

- 12.45 Barnora. 1.15 Short List. 1.45 Impny.
2.15 Marbar. 2.45 Shanbally Boy. 3.15 Occamist.

FORM

12.45 COOMES CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS SELLING CHASE (2816: 2m 2f 110yds) (11 runners)
1 48574-4 PLATYTHEUS 25 (RUS) (B Baird Turner) P Burrows 14-10-12... 11

2.15 COOMES HANDICAP HURDLE (25,182: 2m 2f) (11 runners)

1 53055-0 STEPASIDE LORD 311 (P Green) M Pipe 6-12-0... 91
2 15000-1 HEART OF STONE 35 (CJ O'S) (Mrs J Maynard) R Ashurst 6-11-0... 11

2.45 COOMES SENIOR CITIZENS NOVICES CHASE (22,115: 3m 2f 110yds) (7 runners)

1 19000-1 BOYLE BALMOR 259 (S) (T Duffin) Miss L Bower 6-11-0... 98
2 22200-0 SHANBALLY BOY 254 (O'S) (In Barnard) O Murray-Smith 7-11-0... 98

1.15 GREENWICH NOVICES HURDLE (2880: 2m 8f) (16 runners)

1 00-7 ANTHEM 35 (S) (RUS) 4-10-11... 11
2 00-7 BIGHTING LAD (RUS) 4-10-11... 11

3.15 BLACKHEATH NOVICES HURDLE (2880: 2m 2f) (20 runners)

1 1 00-7 ANTHEM 35 (S) (RUS) 4-10-11... 11
2 1 00-7 BIGHTING LAD (RUS) 4-10-11... 11

1.45 WALLY COOMES HANDICAP CHASE (22,259: 2m 2f 110yds) (9 runners)

1 024-215 IMPANY 18 (RUS) (M McGee) J Forster 9-12-0... 98
2 21554-3 AUTUMN ZILLI 248 (CJ O'S) (P Boddy) Miss L Bower 9-11-7... 98

2.00 HOLLY HANDICAP CHASE (22,843: 3m) (7 runners)

1 4060F-1 FRENCH CAPTAIN 42 (S) (Lavinia Duchess of Norfolk) Lady Herries 12-12-4... 98
2 3142P-0 ON THE TWIST 10 (CJ O'S) (G Hubbard) G Hubbard 6-12-0... 98

12.30 MISTLETOE NOVICES HURDLE (3-Y-C: £820: 2m) (25 runners)

1 1 JASRIT 13 (RUS) (L Jones) M Pipe 11-2... 89
2 0 BOLD VIVANT 11 (P) (Peter Beadman) M Barnard 10-10... 11

2.30 CHRISTMAS TREE CHASE (Div II: £1,203: 2m 4f) (11 runners)

1 97P-311 BEN HAMED 7 (CJ O'S) (P O'Connor) O Green 6-11-0... 98
2 414-3 DERANDER 282 (Nigel Clayton) Lady Herries 6-11-0... 98

1.0 CHRISTMAS CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS SELLING HURDLE (4-Y-O: £830: 2m) (6 runners)

1 19407-1 GAZLING LOWER 7 (RUS) (D Eason) R Richmond 11-8... 98
2 2 024-5 ADAM 11 (U) (Bog) R Hollnbeck 11-0... 98

3.0 DIVY HANDICAP HURDLE (22,282: 2m 4f) (28 runners)

1 14620-0 BONNE COUSE 255 (EUS) (Mrs P Sly) 5-11-11... 91
2 0154-2 THE RAIN 216 (S) (C Ervine) N Henderson 4-11-11... 98

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Prince breeds first winner

The Prince of Wales bred his first winner when Devils Elbow won the Royal Ascot Handicap for fillies by two lengths at Worcester yesterday...

Steve Knight retires

Steve Knight, who rode Maori Venture to win last year's Grand National, has retired. He will begin work early next year as head lad to Richard Hannon...

Results from yesterday's two meetings

Results from yesterday's two meetings
Race details, winners, and odds for both meetings, including sections for Kelso and Worcester.

Vertical text on the right edge of the page, including page number 37 and some illegible text.

RUGBY UNION: UPSURGE IN FORTUNES RAISES EXPECTATIONS FOR 107TH MATCH BETWEEN OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE

Universities' hopes carried along on a wave of excitement

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

It is better to travel hopefully than to arrive. Mark Bailey reminded his London colleagues before their game against the Australians in October. On that occasion, Bailey, the Wasps and former Cambridge wing who is in some danger of becoming pundit as well as player, was wrong, since the arrival, too, was thoroughly satisfactory, but the aphorism could well be applied to the 107th University match, which will be played at Twickenham this afternoon.

TODAY'S TEAMS AT TWICKENHAM

Table listing today's teams at Twickenham for the Oxford vs Cambridge match. Columns include player name, position, and team (Oxford or Cambridge).

Captains enjoy the quality

By Peter Bills

This Michaelmas term began for the both universities in the Far East. Rupert Vessey, the Oxford wing, saw his side unbeaten in Japan and Mark Hancock, the Cambridge scrum half, was with his squad in Taiwan, where national sides were beaten three times. Both players are good friends and plan a joint university venture to Australia, New Zealand and Fiji next summer.



Influential force: Oxford will be depending heavily on Kirk and his ability to clear the ball

Major role for minor Underwood

Tony Underwood will join his club, Rotherham, in the North XV to play London at Imber Court on Saturday in the second round of the Toshiba divisional championship (David Hands writes). He replaces Burnhill on the right wing and is the only change in the side.

Captains enjoy the quality

perior, a factor he attributes to the fact that neither side is just swilling champagne in the car park. Oxford have sharpened their approach of the field with the appointment of Bryan Morgan as the club's full-time administrator. Vessey believes that this step has been a profound success and talks warmly of the improved structure available at Oxford.

BASKETBALL

Aris Salonika are drawcard for Last at Crystal Palace

By Nick Harling

David Last's boast that this year's world invitation club championship at Crystal Palace "will be the best ever" is gaining credibility. No sooner had the Soviet Union, the Olympic gold medal winners, assured the championship director of their presence from December 30 to January 2, than Aris Salonika, the Greek champions, who finished fourth in last year's European Champions' Cup, were saying they too would attend this twelfth annual tournament.

Noel's camp calls for new referee

By Srikanar Sen, Boxing Correspondent

British referees may be the best in the world, but David Noel, of Trinidad and Tobago, does not want to referee his Commonwealth title fight at Crystal Palace on Saturday.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Table listing today's fixtures for various sports including Barclays League, Sheppa Van Trophy, GM Vauxhall Conference, and others.

SPORT ON TV

Table listing sports events on television, including American Football, Student Sport, and Pool Forecasts.

Madz powers in for Trinity

hooking by Black. Certainly handling was difficult, but Musson, their capable stand-off half was far from blameless. It took too much faith in the dummy scissors, often feeding Brammer on the burst and he regularly plowed back into the Trinity pack.

STUDENT SPORT

Winston Sweatman, of Edinburgh University, justified his selection to the world student judo championships in Tbilisi last month by defeating strong opposition to win the under-86kg (13st 8lb) category at the British student championships at Crystal Palace over the weekend.

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

The New England Patriots beat the Seattle Seahawks 13-7 as Stephens rushed for 121 yards to surpass the 1,000 mark in his first season. New England remain in contention for a wild-card playoff berth; Seattle can still win their division.

CYCLING

Dailey's field of choice thinning out. Eight of the 10 places open to amateur teams for next year's Am-Pro Milk Race have already been filled, including an acceptance to the national side in the 1,150-mile event (May 15 to June 10) for the first time. The Soviet Union, Poland and Czechoslovakia have also said yes.

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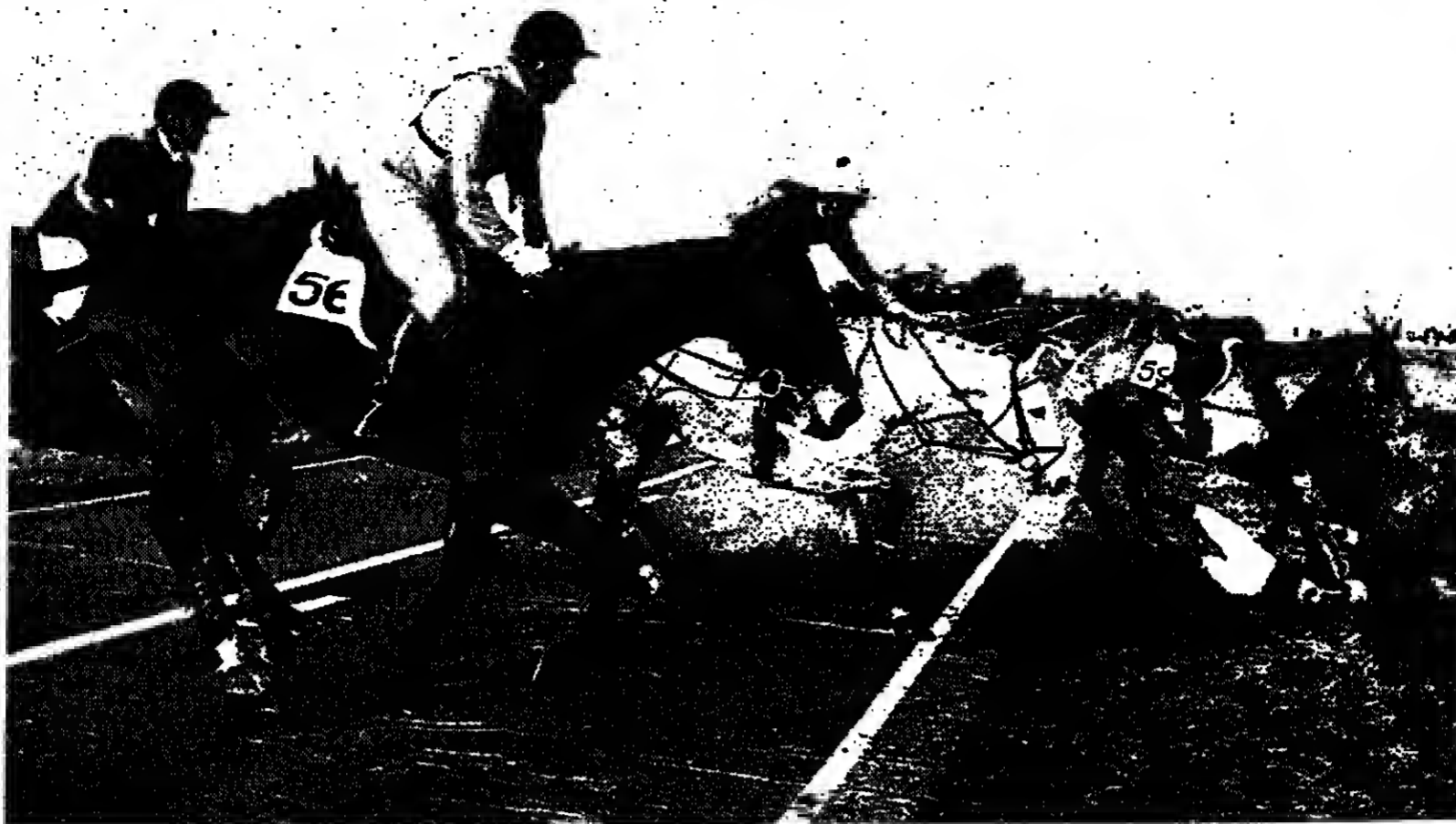


Cross country charge defies all sense

IAN STEWART

By Alan Lee

For any who have lost faith in the great British tradition of sporting eccentricity, the farm fields of Leicestershire provided a guaranteed tonic yesterday. There, amid the animation of the involved and the blank astonishment of the uninformed, was staged one of the most outlandish horse races imaginable.



Down and on their way out: The ditch at the road crossing unseats another competitor, forcing the pursuing riders to take evasive action

They gathered, with a rosy-cheeked eagerness which only those who have ridden at speed over fences would remotely comprehend, in a muddy field near the village of Upper Broughton, a part of England famous for cheese, pork pies and hunting horns.

Down and on their way out: The ditch at the road crossing unseats another competitor, forcing the pursuing riders to take evasive action

He is not a racehorse but he has won every serious cross country race in England. "Now that he has won the biggest and best I shall take him to Czechoslovakia next year for the Pardobice. If he can jump round Melton, he can jump round there."

It has taken him a while to get round to it, but today Colin Moylhan, the Minister for Sport, will finally come face-to-face with the people for whom his Government's contentious Football Spectators Bill was designed - the supporters.

END COLUMN

Fighting the battle for fans

By Clive White

It has taken him a while to get round to it, but today Colin Moylhan, the Minister for Sport, will finally come face-to-face with the people for whom his Government's contentious Football Spectators Bill was designed - the supporters.

Britain humbled in Federation Cup

From Barry Wood, Melbourne

The impoverished state of British tennis was further underlined yesterday when the Federation Cup team was defeated 2-1 by Indonesia in the first round.

Smith pledges to bring glory days back to Newcastle

By Louise Taylor

Five years ago Jim Smith turned down an opportunity to manage Newcastle United for "family reasons".

These situations before and it won't stop me getting on with the job."

Live TV poaches Robson's squad

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

The demands of live television are about to encroach on England's World Cup preparations. A League fixture is to be shown on ITV on February 5, three days before Bobby Robson's squad completes the only practice match, against Greece in Athens.

Understanding how supporters feel

Within four days of drawing up the rules and regulations of the Football Supporters Association they were given the chance to be heard.

Shreeves holds the fort

Although Peter Shreeves, the coach, remains favourite to succeed Jim Smith as the manager of Queen's Park Rangers, Trevor Francis and Osvaldo Ardiles were mentioned yesterday for positions in a revamped set-up.

Richard Thompson, the Rangers chairman, spoke to Shreeves on the telephone before he left.

Ipswich hoping to sign Baltacha

Ipswich Town yesterday continued their attempt to become the first English club to sign a Russian player.

Duncan has been pursuing Baltacha, aged 30, since the start of the season.

Tour disruption threat

The England cricket team will face anti-apartheid protests if the proposed tour of New Zealand goes ahead in February and March.

Kelly Evernden, of New Zealand, and the American, Johan Kriek, the late replacements, are drawn in the same group as the No. 1 seeds, Ken Flach and Robert Seguso, for the Masters doubles tennis tournament starting at the Albert Hall tomorrow.

Dispute changes court

The Football League Management committee's attempt to seize the £1.9 million bond posted in 1986 by the new Middlesbrough board against the old company's debts will be tested in the High Court in London before Christmas.

Desert date

Liverpool and Celtic, the champions of England and Scotland respectively, will meet for the unofficial British football title in the Dubai Cup in the desert state on January 17.

Official duty

Three Britons will officiate in the Davis Cup final between Sweden and West Germany from December 16 to 18.

Start halted

Florida - Racing on the first day of the world windsurfing championship, in which Dave Perks, of Cornwall, will defend his title, was abandoned yesterday due to lack of wind.

Golden opportunity has been missed

"I believe that a number of Tory MPs, sitting in marginal constituencies, will realize that 1,000 footy votes and the £23,500-a-year job is gone."

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